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PFLP CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR EL AL BUS ATTACK

JN201835Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] branch of special operations has claimed responsibility for the attack against the Zionist El Al bus in London today. During the attack one [as heard] person was killed and eight others seriously wounded. In a statement the PFLP said that this operation [words indistinct] armed struggle to strike at the Zionist targets wherever they may exist. The front said that orders were issued to a group of the front's fedayeen to strike against two crews of Zionist pilots who work for a Zionist military group and for the Zionist airlines.

PALESTINIAN SPOKESMAN ON ISRAELI AIR RAID

NC210910Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0851 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 21 August--A Palestinian spokesman announced today that the attack carried out early this morning by 2 Israeli aircraft resulted in the killing of 3 people and the wounding of 14 others, most of them women and children. The spokesman said that these casualties occurred when the planes attacked the sports club in the Burj al-Barajinah camp, in the southern quarter of Beirut. The spokesman said that the two planes also attacked a school for children in Ad-Damur, south of Beirut, but did not cause any casualties. The spokesman said that ground defenses intercepted the planes and forced them to fly high and turn toward the occupied territory.

PFLP Official Comments

JN210935Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 21 August--Bassam Abu Sharif, member of the Politburo of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], has asserted that the Zionist enemy attempts will founder on the Palestinian rock. Commenting on the Zionist air raid on the Palestinian camps early today, Abu Sharif told the INA Beirut correspondent that the Zionist enemy raids on the Palestinian camps reaffirm the enemy's savagery and determination to proceed in his mass annihilation of the citizens.

Abu Sharif added that the enemy attempts will not harm the Palestinian arm. He said that the front will escalate the struggle regardless of the obstacles. Abu Sharif condemned the course of settlement. He said that the settlement which is being imposed on our Arab masses by imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction will not continue without mishap.

FATAH, PFLP PLEDGE TO CONTINUE DIALOG

JN191756Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1700 GMT 19 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Two delegations representing the commands of Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] have discussed the situation and recent developments in the area. At the end of the meeting, the two organizations stressed the following:

1. Effective and rapid action to achieve national unity in the Palestinian arena is important.

2. The political contradictions in the revolution's ranks are an issue scientifically (?rejected). The sole and sound means to solve these contradictions is democratic dialog. Accordingly, Fatah and the PFLP pledge to adhere to democratic dialog as a method of action in the Palestinian arena. They urge all parties to respect the bases of democratic dialog and also not to exploit this democratic atmosphere by harming the revolution and the revolutionary march. The two organizations believe that Palestinian national unity is a basic condition for preserving the revolution, the gains of our people and Palestinian might.

3. The serious circumstances through which the Palestinian revolution is passing dictate the highest degree of vigilance and awareness so as to defend the people, the revolution and its pillars. Consequently, the two organizations believe that the question of defending the people and their revolution is an urgent and basic task. This dictates cohesion and coordination among the Palestinian factions under the aegis of the PLO.

The two organizations assert that the plots that are being concocted against the Palestinian revolution are aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause. This makes it incumbent on the revolution to unify its ranks in defense of the cause and the gains of our people and to direct the liberation operation.

VOP ON IRANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER'S ACCUSATIONS

JN191948Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1715 GMT 19 Aug 78 JN

[From "Events of the Week" program]

[Text] [Announcer] The Iranian information minister has accused the PLO of supporting the current uprising of the Iranian people against the shah's regime. What is the PLO's reaction to these accusations?

[Unidentified speaker] Our reply to these accusations has been clear from the beginning. These accusations are idle, baseless talk and indicate that it is difficult for the shah's regime to find foreign sides to accuse of supporting this massive popular uprising. We say that these accusations should not have been directed against us because the Iranian people are suffering under a dictatorship in Iran and have the right to struggle against this regime. These people are independently waging their struggle against the shah's regime.

As is well known, the shah's regime is one of the forces hostile to our revolution and to every Arab liberation movement in the Arab Gulf area and elsewhere. This regime coordinates with Israel and the racist regime in South Africa to strike against the liberation movements in Asia and Africa.

We also stress that the Palestinian revolution does not export revolutions. We know very well that the Iranian people alone are leading their uprising against the shah's regime.

ABU IYAD MEETS WITH NASIRITE MOVEMENT LEADER

JN181849Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 18 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] Fatah Central Committee member brother Abu Iyad yesterday met with brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement Al-Murabitun. In a statement after the 2-hour meeting, Al-Murabitun said that the two sides reviewed the political situation in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas. The discussion also focused on ways of confronting the isolationist plans and schemes, as well as on the new Camp David plot and the role being played by an Arab regime that has volunteered to bless this Carter-As-Sadat-Begin meeting.

Meanwhile, in another development the Al-Murabitun Movement has rejected all calls for converting Beirut into an open city. It said that the aim behind these calls is to bring about the domination of the so-called isolationist intrinsic security in the eastern parts of Beirut. The movement also denounced the policy of relying on guarantees in southern Lebanon. It said that any guarantee by any side would be unable to give the state's role in southern Lebanon its real and sound dimension. This role can only be effective if the state gives up its biased and shaky proposals concerning the building of the homeland and man.

LEBANESE NATIONALISTS, PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE MEET

JN181953Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1800 GMT 18 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The joint command of the Palestinian resistance, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Nationalist Front held a 3-hour meeting last night under brother Abu 'Ammar.

The meeting dealt with two main issues, the first being the security issue. The representatives of the resistance, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Nationalist Front gave their views on the security situation in western Beirut and the camps after the Al-Fakihani operation. They dealt with the rumors that spread in the area after the operation and the attempts of the isolationists, the Israeli enemy and the imperialist media to spread terror among the Palestinians in order to destroy the intimate relations between the masses and the Palestinian resistance.

The members of the joint forces command stressed the urgent need to strengthen the steadfastness of the masses and to increase their adherence to the revolution by taking immediate and direct security measures for storing weapons in residential buildings. The joint meeting decided to form a technical committee to check the buildings and to ascertain that they are free from weapons. The meeting also decided to empower the higher military council of the Palestinian revolution with direct supervision over weapons in the area and the means of storing them away from residential quarters. The joint command decided to begin implementing these measures in order to prevent enemy forces from exploiting any loophole in the security of the revolution and the Nationalist Movement in these areas. These loopholes can be exploited to divert attention from the enemy attempts to divide Lebanon and create a second Israel there. The joint command approved a large-scale plan of action on both the political and popular levels in order to face the enemy campaign of obscurantism fed by the Zionist, imperialist and isolationist media.

The second main issue was the serious situation in Lebanon in which the gangs of the Phalangists and the Sham'unists continue to inflame the situation against the Arab Deterrent Forces. The joint command discussed all aspects of the Lebanese situation and decided to form a joint committee to draw up a detailed action plan to deal with the situation. The joint committee consists of the following brothers: brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department; brother Zuhayr Muhsin, head of the PLO Military Department; and brother Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, head of the PLO Information Department. From the Nationalist Movement it consists of brothers In'am Ra'd, Muhsin Ibrahim and George Hawi; and from the Nationalist Front, brothers 'Abdallah al-Amin, Samir Tarabulsi and 'Isam al-Mahayirah. The committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow, Saturday, to prepare the detailed action plan which will be submitted to the joint command at its meeting next Monday.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAR FOREIGN MINISTER AL-ASNAJ ARRIVES IN JIDDA

LD192102Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj arrived at Jidda Airport this afternoon for a visit of a few days to Saudi Arabia. He was welcomed at the airport by Salim Sunbul, head of the Protocol Section in the Foreign Ministry, and by the YAR's ambassador to Riyadh.

'Abdallah al-Asnaj told SNA on arrival that his visit was at the invitation of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, and came within the framework of the continuous consultations between the two fraternal countries on inter-Arab solidarity, the forthcoming meeting of the Arab League and the unification of positions toward Arab and international questions in advance of the forthcoming session of the United Nations General Assembly. Al-Asnaj also said that priorities on matters concerning bilateral relations between the two countries will be defined. These will be examined by the forthcoming joint Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council in Saudi Arabia.

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD192354Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2220 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] At-Ta'if--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and His Excellency 'Abdallah al-Asnaj, YAR foreign minister, held a 2 and 1/2 hour meeting in At-Ta'if this evening. The meeting was attended by Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary for political affairs in the Foreign Ministry.

The meeting dealt with the subjects of Arab solidarity, the forthcoming meeting of the Arab League Council and coordination of Arab stands during the course of the coming UN General Assembly in September in order to serve the just Arab causes. The relations between the kingdom and the YAR were also discussed.

After the meeting, His Excellency 'Abdallah al-Asnaj stated that in the course of the meeting the proposed agenda for the Saudi-Yemeni Coordination Council, which will be convened at a later date, was discussed. He added: In the meantime we are working to convene the meeting.

His Excellency stressed that his meeting with His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, like all bilateral meetings between the kingdom and the YAR, has resulted in identical views of the two fraternal countries on Arab and international issues. The meeting was attended by Humud al-Ja'ifi, YAR ambassador to the kingdom.

Leaves Jidda

LD202138Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1952 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Jidda, 20 Aug 78, SNA--'Abdallah al-Asnaj, foreign minister of the YAR, left Jidda Airport this evening for home after a 2-day official visit to the kingdom during which he had talks with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, in the context of the continous consultations between the kingdom and the YAR over inter-Arab solidarity. He was seen off at the airport by Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mansuri, under secretary in the Foreign Ministry for political affairs; Salim Sunbul, head of the Protocol Section in the Foreign Ministry; and Hamud al-Fayfi, YAR ambassador to Riyadh.

UAE

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

JN200920Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0905 GMT 20 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 August--Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad arrived in Abu Dhabi this morning on a 1-day visit to the UAE. Mr Riyad's visit to the UAE is part of a tour of several Arab states. He has already visited Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan and Kuwait.

Following his visit to the UAE, the Arab League secretary general is scheduled to proceed to San'a' and Khartoum to prepare for the forthcoming meeting of the Arab League Council scheduled to be held in Khartoum on 12 September.

YEMEN--PDRY

PDRY DENIES VIOLATING YAR TERRITORIAL WATERS

LD181540Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Text] A responsible source at the PDRY Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY:

The PDRY Government denies absolutely that four PDRY naval units have violated YAR territorial waters, as has been alleged by the San'a' government.

It takes the view that the San'a' government's allegation exacerbates the situation, creating a state of tension in the region and raising the spectre of a destructive war in place of an atmosphere of stability, harmony and peaceful coexistence.

A disquieting feature, which further aggravates the situation, is that the allegations coincide with recent Israeli statements regarding the existence of foreign forces and weapons on Perim Island. This was claimed by the commander of an Israeli vessel shortly after the allegations by the San'a' government.

The PDRY Government is firmly committed to solving the problems of the Yemeni people and homeland through objective dialog, direct contacts, continuous coordination between officials of the north and south and striving for stability and a truly cooperative spirit between the governments and the peoples of the region, and it reaffirms these principles and noble aims.

At the same time, it declares that it is not intimidated by the provocative policies of imperialist and reactionary circles, whether pursued through propaganda or saber rattling, and it will not allow these circles to destroy the Yemeni homeland and drag the Yemeni people into civil war.

We take this occasion to urge our brothers in the northern part of the homeland to understand the real interests of the Yemeni people and the homeland and spare the Yemeni people from the tragedies of destruction, civil war and related conflicts which do not serve their interest in freedom, national sovereignty, progress and independent development, and to frustrate the traditional and historic enemies of our Yemeni people and homeland.

CHIEF OF STAFF RECEIVES SOVIET ADMIRAL

JN201653Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 20 August--Chief of Staff Lt Col Abu Bakr Hasanymun received here yesterday Vice Admiral N.Y. Yasakov, commander of the group of Soviet ships currently visiting the PDRY. During the meeting they exchanged friendly speeches and discussed issues of common concern to the two friendly countries.

AR-RA'Y SAYS SOVIET SHIPS CARRY CUBAN SOLDIERS TO ADEN

JN200727Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Aug 78 p 1 JN

[Text] Cairo, exclusive for AR-RA'Y--Arab circles here have received a report that the units of the Soviet fleet which arrived in Aden the day before yesterday landed Cuban forces, estimated at 500 soldiers fully equipped with weapons, in this Yemeni port.

The report adds that the Cuban forces, with tanks, left for the YAR border where they took up positions. The report says that the reason for the arrival of the Cuban forces is to keep the situation in South Yemen under control.

Meanwhile, the YAR has informed the Arab League that four naval units flying the flags of the PDRY were seen violating the regional waters of the YAR, that the repetition of these violations will create a dangerous situation in the area and that the YAR views such an incident seriously and reserves for itself the right to defend its regional sovereignty against such violations. The YAR has requested the distribution of this memo to the Arab governments, and the Arab League's General Secretariat has done so.

YEMEN--YAR

MEMORANDUM ON PDRY VIOLATIONS SENT TO ARAB LEAGUE

NC191355Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 August--The Arab League General Secretariat today sent to the member states the text of the memorandum it has received from the YAR Government concerning the violation of YAR territorial waters by PDRY naval units.

The memorandum, which was received by Arab League Assistant Secretary General Dr Sayyid Nawfal, says that four naval units flying the PDRY flag have violated YAR territorial waters.

The memorandum, which was presented by the YAR's permanent delegate to the Arab League, Mustafa Ya'qub, warns that a repetition of such violations could create a dangerous situation in the area. In the memorandum the YAR Government says that it reserves the right to defend itself and calls for the circulation of the memorandum to the league's member states.

AFP: PRIME MINISTER SALIM OFFERS RESIGNATION

OW2108J3Y Paris AFP in English 0826 GMT 21 Aug 78 OW

[Text] Cairo, Aug 21 (AFP)--Egyptian Premier Mamduh Salim has offered his resignation to President Anwar as-Sadat, according to the weekly AL-AHRAR of the right-wing "Socialist Liberal" Party here today. He would continue to carry out his duties until the resignation had been accepted, it added.

Further Details

OW2109llY Paris AFP in English 0906 GMT 21 Aug 78 OW

[Text] Cairo, Aug 21 (AFP)--Egyptian Premier Mamduh Salim was today reported to have offered his resignation to President Anwar as-Sadat, in the wake of Mr. as-Sadat's moves to found a new political party to be called National Democrat. According to the weekly AL-AHRAR, Mr. Salim announced his decision yesterday to the Political Bureau of the existing Misr Party, which he has led since its creation two years ago. The decision followed a massive movement by Misr deputies, who form 82 percent of the present parliament, to join the new party, AL-AHRAR said. Only 24 of the party's 270 M.P.'s wanted Misr to continue. Mr Salim, who also announced his intention to quit political life altogether, would continue to carry out his duties as premier until Mr. as-Sadat accepted his resignation, AL-AHRAR added.

According to the weekly, Mr. as-Sadat would accept the resignation, and later start forming a new government after his return from the Camp David Middle East summit in the U.S. next month. Observers said there was some speculation Mr. as-Sadat might combine the duties of president and premier.

CHANGES IN AS-SADAT U.S. ITINERARY REPORTED

NC2023O2Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2238 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 August--The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports in its Monday edition that essential changes have been introduced in the itinerary of President Anwar as-Sadat's visit to the United States. The paper says that the Camp David summit meeting is expected to last until 12 September or even later. President as-Sadat will then return to Washington to meet with a number of congressmen and senators. He will also meet with U.S. newsmen. The paper adds that the president's visit to Washington is expected to last about 3 days. The president will then fly to Vienna and Salisbury.

AL-AHRAM ON CAMP DAVID MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

NC200812Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 August--Cairo papers today continue to focus their attention on the reports of the arrangements for holding the tripartite summit meeting among Egypt, the United States and Israel at Camp David on 5 September.

AL-AHRAM says that Egypt is preparing practical proposals for the withdrawal of Israel from the West Bank and Gaza on the basis of the six principles included in the Egyptian plan which was submitted during the Leeds Castle discussions. These principles define the security guarantees for all parties in the event of Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza. They also define the method of Palestinian participation in determining their future.

The paper further reports that the final details of the forthcoming important political tour by President Anwar as-Sadat have been drawn up. As-Sadat will begin his tour on the first day of 'Id al-Fitr. He will hold discussions with the French president, Valery Giscard d'Estaing, and with U.S. President Jimmy Carter. He will then attend the tripartite meeting which will include him, the U.S. President and the Israeli prime minister, Menahem Begin. President as-Sadat will then fly to Vienna to meet with the Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky, in a new attempt to activate the Middle East question in order to establish a durable and just peace in the area through a comprehensive settlement.

AL-AHRAM goes on to say that following the recent consultations between the chief of the president's office, Hasan Kamil; the U.S. ambassador in Cairo, Hermann Eilts; and the French charge d'affaires in Egypt, it was decided that President as-Sadat will fly to Paris to meet with President Giscard on 4 September. He will then leave the French capital for Washington. Immediately on arrival in Washington, the president will be transported by the U.S. President's helicopter to Camp David, where he will hold the first working session with U.S. President Jimmy Carter and will then attend the summit meeting in which Menahem Begin will take part.

AL-AHRAM then says that the chief of the president's office, Hasan Kamil, will fly to Paris and Washington and then return to Cairo to travel with President as-Sadat as a member of the Egyptian delegation, which will include Deputy Prime Minister for Presidential Affairs Hasan at-Tuhami, Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali. The paper adds that another member might be added to the Egyptian delegation.

AL-AHRAM further reports that Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the Legal Department at the Foreign Ministry Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, and Director of the Foreign Minister's Office Ahmad Mahir as-Sayyid will fly directly to Washington at the end of this month. They will meet with members of the U.S. delegation to the Camp David discussions to prepare the final documents of the meeting. Egypt's ambassador to Washington, Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, who returned to the U.S. capital a few days ago, will take part in these contacts.

Reports Egyptian Plan

NC2022500Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 August--In its Monday edition the newspaper AL-AHRAM reports that Egypt will participate in the Camp David summit meeting on the basis of a plan containing three parts. The first part deals with the declaration of principles, the second with the way to implement these principles, and the third with the steps to be taken to implement these principles and the organs needed for the implementation of these principles.

The paper adds that the Egyptian diplomatic preparations for this meeting are taking place on three levels. The first level is dealing with the subject of the declaration of principles. A specialized committee will prepare the statement including the declaration of principles through which the comprehensive settlement may be achieved on the basis of Security Council Resolution 242 and other international resolutions and statements, and President Anwar as-Sadat's speech to the Knesset, in which he set forth the principles of a lasting and just peace.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM also reports that the second level deals with the question of the implementation of the principles. A second committee will prepare the way for implementing the principles included in the general declaration in such a way that each one of these principles will be implemented in a feasible and positive way.

The paper says that these studies will deal with the way of implementing the following principles:

1. Withdrawal from the Arab territories, its phases and steps, and the way to achieve it;

2. The transitional period for the West Bank and Gaza and the way to implement this [application of the transitional period];

3. Preparing the Palestinian people for self-determination;

4. The nature of peace;

5. The security guarantees in light of the six points which President as-Sadat has affirmed that Egypt is ready to implement.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM adds that the third level deals with the organs that will carry out the implementation. A third committee will discuss the organs and the apparatus which will implement the steps whereby peace will be achieved once an agreement on principles is achieved.

The paper reports that these committees are under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The paper adds that the U.S. Government has notified Cairo that U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will meet in Washington sometime this week with his top aides to present a final U.S. working paper and come up with an overall plan for the role which the United States can play at Camp David.

PRESS PRAISES CARTER STATEMENTS ON SUMMIT

NC2010202Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The Cairo newspapers this morning continue to devote their attention to the news of the preparations for the Camp David tripartite summit conference. The papers point out that Egypt is currently preparing practical proposals for Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the basis of the six principles contained in the Egyptian plan submitted at the Leeds Castle talks. These principles defined the security guarantees to all the parties in the event of Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the manner of the participation of the Palestinians in determining their future.

AL-AHRAM's commentary today deals with the real questions raised by the attempt to predict the outcome of the tripartite summit conference in Camp David.

The paper points out that U.S. President Jimmy Carter recently hinted in his statements that he cannot guarantee in advance that the Camp David summit conference will lead to a settlement or agreement that will open the way to a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis, and that the failure of this conference will expose him to a big political risk, for which he cannot absolve himself of responsibility.

The paper expresses the belief that the purpose of this statement, which precedes this statement, which precedes this crucial meeting, could be to lower the highly optimistic level of expectations, to stress to all sides the grave consequences of its failure, and to prompt Egypt and Israel to show greater flexibility. Otherwise, Carter will have to wash his hands of this problem completely, which jeopardizes his position at home at a time he is standing on the threshold of important Congressional elections.

AL-AHRAM says: The question that poses itself--a question imposed by circumstances which cannot be ignored and the possibilities which we must calculate--is: What can the U.S. Government do if the U.S. ideas and proposals which are being prepared do not succeed in bridging the gap between the Egyptian and Israeli positions or, in other words, in prompting Israel to change its position?

Concluding its commentary, AL-AHRAM says: The U.S. administration will have no other way, in our opinion, but for President Carter to take a risk, just as he risked his personal position to prepare for this conference, and announce to the whole world honestly the reality of the Israeli position and, based on the complete U.S. understanding of the reality of the positions of both sides, state which side is responsible for torpedoing the peace prospects. This testimony by President Carter will be recorded for him in contemporary history and deserves the risk.

In its editorial, the newspaper AL-AKHBAR notes the great interest that President Carter's recent statements on the tripartite conference have generated. The paper says that the reason for this great interest in President Carter's statements is that the U.S. President dealt with the situation in a realistic and frank manner.

The United States called for the Camp David summit conference on a new basis as a full partner that is aware of its responsibilities. Apart from being a victory for the opinion and idea of President as-Sadat, this is a firm indication that the United States has become convinced that the situation must be tackled firmly and an end put to the crisis, which has dragged on longer than necessary.

The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that the tripartite summit conference has become a real test, not only for Israel but primarily for the United States, because the conference is being convened at the personal invitation of the U.S. President, is being held in the U.S. capital, and is being prepared for with U.S. efforts, contacts and proposals. President Carter is completely aware of the positions of Egypt and Israel and can see the wide gap between the two. Egypt wants peace, provided land and sovereignty are untouched; Israel wants land and sovereignty first, and then it will discuss the question of peace. Nevertheless, Carter issued his invitation for this meeting and took it as a basic commitment upon himself.

It cannot be imagined that the United States and its President would take the risk in extending this invitation unless there were a great degree of possible success. AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that success at the conference will not be achieved unless Israel changes its position and understands that achieving both peace and territory is impossible. Hence the remark that the Camp David conference is a real test. It is a test for the U.S. ability to make the invitation to the conference a success and to prove that its concept of just peace is the same concept unanimously endorsed by the international community on more than one occasion. It is a test for the U.S. ability to deal with Israel in a manner that will make Israel change its position.

EGYPT REPORTEDLY STUDYING JORDANIAN VIEW

JN180807Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 18 Aug 78 p 1 JN

[Excerpt] Cairo--Responsible Egyptian quarters are studying with great interest a report on the Jordanian viewpoint regarding the Camp David meeting which will be held on 5 September between the leaders of Egypt, Israel and the United States. The report was conveyed to Egypt by 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, Egyptian ambassador in Amman, who met immediately after his arrival in Cairo with Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, Egyptian foreign minister. Egyptian sources have declined to give any details concerning the Jordanian viewpoint or the contents of the report, but have said that the Egyptian officials are studying the report with special attention.

DR GHALI MEETS WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR EILTS

NC191528Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met this afternoon with U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Hermann Eilts to discuss the arrangements being made for the 5 September Camp David conference to be attended by President Anwar as-Sadat, U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

GHALI COMMENTS ON CARTER'S PARTICIPATION

NC191319Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 19 August--Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has described the participation of U.S. President Jimmy Carter in the Camp David summit as an actual partner and not a mediator as very important. He said that this would impel the parties concerned to search for positive factors to solve the [Middle East] question, particularly because Egyptian diplomacy seeks a comprehensive solution and rejects all attempts for a partial or bilateral solution.

In an interview published today by AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, Dr Ghali says that he does not feel pessimistic about the outcome of the Camp David summit because the confrontation has lasted more than 30 years and it cannot be settled in a matter of weeks or months, and because there must be a diplomatic move on the Arab level. He adds: The matter must be raised with the Arab states which reject a settlement, because Arab disagreements concern the method of action more than the aims. Regardless of their disagreement, the Arabs cannot demand more than President as-Sadat demanded at the Israeli Knesset. Regarding Egypt's African policy, Dr Ghali says that this policy is based on the fact that Egypt is an Arab and African state, and that its task is to activate Afro-Arab cooperation and act to solve the African differences by peaceful methods within the African framework and out of respect for the political borders separating the African states.

HUA KUO-FENG EXPRESSES WISH TO VISIT EGYPT

NC210710Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 21 August--The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports today that PRC Chairman Hua Kuo-feng has expressed a desire to visit Egypt at a date to be agreed upon. The paper says that the Chinese leader recently conveyed this desire to the Egyptian ambassador in Peking, 'Abd as-Salam Tawfiq. Vice President Husni Mubarak has informed the ambassador that President Anwar as-Sadat welcomes a visit to Egypt by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng at a date to be proposed by Chairman Hua, and that Egypt would be very happy for such a visit to take place.

KING HUSAYN EXPRESSES VIEWS ON CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

JN181834Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Aug 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has expressed the hope that the results of the tripartite Camp David meeting will be in harmony with UN Resolution 242. In statements published in the Japanese newspaper ASAHI SHIMBUN, His Majesty said that the Israelis shoulder the biggest responsibility for making a success of the talks among the leaders of the United States, Egypt and Israel.

In reply to a question about whether Egypt has invited Jordan to participate in the peace negotiations, His Majesty said that President as-Sadat is trying to devise a framework in which all aspects of the problem will be handled in a manner that will give every country at that time the right to choose what it wants to do in regard to the details.

His Majesty King Husayn added: President as-Sadat has repeatedly confirmed to me that his sole objective is Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. His Majesty said that neither of these points has so far been achieved to enable others to study what they should do.

In reply to a question about the possible consequences of the failure of President as-Sadat's initiative, His Majesty King Husayn said: At that time the Arab cause should be presented to the world and referred to the Security Council. He added that the Arabs should also call for convocation of the Geneva conference, because war and peace in the area are matters that affect the entire world.

In conclusion, His Majesty said that President as-Sadat's initiative is the most that could be presented by the Arab side to resolve the Middle East issue. The Arab side has clearly explained to the world that the Arab countries are seeking a just, durable and honorable peace. His majesty said: We are approaching the point at which we can deduce whether peace is definitely possible.

HUSAYN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER

JN201208Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Aug 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn yesterday received a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter dealing with the U.S. stand on the forthcoming tripartite talks at Camp David and the U.S. Government's views on peace efforts and the situation in the Middle East.

ROYAL DECREE NAMES THREE NEW MINISTERS

JN191733Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Aug 78 JN

[Text] A royal decree has been issued appointing the following ministers: 'Abd ar-Ra'uf ar-Rawabidah, minister of health; Hikmat as-Sakit, minister of agriculture; and Dr Sa'id at-Tall, minister of communications.

The new ministers took the constitutional oath before His Majesty King Husayn at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening. The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Court; and 'Amir Khammash, court minister.

ISRAELI PLANES ATTACK PALESTINIAN POSITIONS

NC2105422 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] At about 0535 today Israeli planes flew over Sabra and the southern quarter of Beirut. The planes carried out sorties over Sabra and Burj al-Barajinah. After 15 minutes antiaircraft guns opened fire at the planes. The shooting continued intermittently for more than 30 minutes. The planes then flew southward over the sea.

It has become apparent that the Israeli planes attacked Burj al-Barajinah and Palestinian concentrations in Ad-Damur. The number of casualties is reportedly high. A Palestinian source in Burj al-Barajinah said that 14 people were hit, including 4 killed. No statement has been made yet about the losses in Ad-Damur. Ambulances were seen this morning moving frequently between the area of Sabra-Burj al-Barajinah and the hospitals.

BUTRUS ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON LEBANESE ARMY PROBLEMS

NC1817402 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus held several consultations today. Minister Butrus answered a number of questions regarding current developments and the truth of reiterated reports. Asked what is new in the situation in southern Lebanon, Butrus said: There is nothing new in the situation in the south. We are expecting the arrival of the UN under secretary. The visit may bring about developments. There is no doubt that it constitutes a considerable move and may enable us to introduce new elements in the situation.

Asked if he agrees to the amendments limiting the powers of the army commander, he said: I do not believe that it is appropriate to raise this question. I will outline my position toward the bill at the meeting of the Parliamentary Administration and Justice Affairs Committee. Minister Butrus added: The purpose of the bill is not to limit the powers of the army commander in relation to issuing orders. There are other powers of the army commander not related to issuing orders, but to other administrative aspects. I believe that there is a wide scope for discussing these. As regards the issuing of orders, we will express our stand in the committee. We hope that we will agree on a draft that will preserve the army, the ranks, the discipline and the powers of the commander in order to enable him to assume his responsibility. Asked whether he has threatened to resign if the powers of the army commander were restricted, Minister Butrus said: No, this is not true. I told you my position regarding the subject.

On the deployment of army units to maintain security in Beirut, Minister Butrus said: The time will come when the army will assume security duties. This time has not yet come, and the question has not been raised.

Regarding the renewal of the UN forces mandate and whether this is linked with the army's entry to Tibnin, Minister Butrus said: We have not so far discussed the conditions for the renewal of the UN forces mandate. In discussing the question we will ascertain whether or not the subject depends on certain conditions.

PRIME MINISTER DENOUNCES ISRAELI INTERFERENCE

NC200725Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss said today that Israel's attempts to arouse factional chauvinism in Lebanon and undermine the domestic front are now known to world public opinion.

Commenting on the statement by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, which was broadcast by Israeli radio at 0830 today, Prime Minister al-Huss added: Israel's talk about an alleged extermination of a part of the Lebanese people is a link in the series of the continuous attempts to blatantly interfere in our domestic affairs. Prime Minister al-Huss added: The fraternal coexistence among the sons of the one homeland in the various Lebanese regions, which all forces failed to undermine, remains the shining reply to the Israeli allegations and constitutes the front resisting all plots.

UN UNDER SECRETARY URQUHART ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

NC181627Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 Aug 78 NC

[Text] With respect to the question of the deployment of the Lebanese Army in southern Lebanon, UN Under Secretary for Political Affairs Brian Urquhart arrived in Beirut this afternoon to ascertain the obstacles in the way of implementing the UN Security Council resolution in the south and to hold consultations with Lebanese officials on this matter.

President Sarkis met today with Lebanese UN Permanent Delegate Ghassan Tuwayni with whom he discussed the questions connected with the visit of the UN under secretary.

At the same time Foreign Minister Butrus has continued his diplomatic consultations on the situation in the south. Minister Butrus met with the British ambassador to Lebanon, Peter Wakefield, with whom he reviewed the current developments. He also met with Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni to review various reports.

Ambassador Tuwayni said after the meeting: All I can say about this visit is that Dr Waldheim will draft a report in which he will assess the UN forces' situation and their operation in southern Lebanon. In turn, we will inform the UN envoy of what we have and we will hear what he has to say before he leaves for Israel.

Regarding the renewal of the UN forces' mandate, Ambassador Tuwayni said that the renewal depends upon the evaluation of the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution.

The UN under secretary's visit to Lebanon will begin with a meeting with the UN forces' command in southern Lebanon to discuss the situation. Saturday morning he will visit President Sarkis and will meet Prime Minister al-Huss in the afternoon. He will also meet with Minister Butrus, Ambassador Tuwayni, Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri and will latter inspect the UN forces in southern Lebanon before leaving for Israel.

A UN spokesman said that the UN envoy's mission is to contact the parties involved in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425.

Meets Foreign Minister

NC190838Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Brian Urquhart, the UN under secretary for political affairs, began discussions today with senior Lebanese officials regarding the situation in the south and the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425.

At 0930 today Urquhart met with Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus. The meeting was attended on the Lebanese side by Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri, Chief of Staff Brig Gen Munir Tarabay, and the Lebanese permanent delegate to the United Nations, Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni.

In addition to Urquhart, the meeting was attended on the UN side by the UN secretary general's personal representative, John Saunders; the UN emergency forces coordinator general, General Siilasvuo; the UNIFIL commander, General Erskine; and Erksine's political adviser, Jean (Claude Emile).

Butrus, Urquhart Make Statements

NC191255Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] After his meeting with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, which lasted 70 minutes, UN Under Secretary for Political Affairs Brian Urquhard said: I am very happy to have met the foreign minister. The meeting was very useful in view of our responsibilities and duties and the problems related to the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions on southern Lebanon. He added: It was necessary to meet here to hear the views of Lebanese officials on ways to solve these problems. This helps in outlining our views and those of the UN secretary general, who asked me to come here to meet all those involved in this problem.

Minister Butrus summed up the talks with the UN under secretary by saying: Mr Urquhart came to Lebanon at the request of the UN secretary general to acquaint himself with the situation on the spot and to hold a series of talks with various officials. This will assist the UN secretary general in drafting his report and in dealing with the outstanding questions in southern Lebanon in relation to the implementation of Resolution 425 and in dealing with the obstacles blocking implementation of this resolution. He said: The meeting was very useful as there are several points which we were able to clarify to our guest and on which we expressed our views. Mr Urquhart asked clear questions. We gave him the appropriate answers in the light of Lebanon's interests and the role which the United Nations should play so that we can say that it has implemented its resolutions.

Minister Butrus said: I am confident that the United Nations fully realizes the importance of the pending question in southern Lebanon and that it will deal with it with precision and interest. However, this does not mean that the question is easy to solve and that the mere visit of the UN secretary general or his representative can resolve difficult points. We have to follow the course until the end to affirm Lebanon's right to regain complete Lebanese authority over the south.

Asked to outline the points raised with Mr Urquhart, Minister Butrus said: I cannot detail the points discussed as these were secret. However, they all deal with the obstacles and the difficulties preventing the deployment of UN forces in southern Lebanon as called for in Resolution 425.

They also deal with the close cooperation which must exist between the Lebanese Army and the UN forces, since these forces came to support the army and to secure the restoration of the state's control over the south by overcoming any difficulty or resistance from any source.

Asked about the renewal of the UN forces' mandate and whether this is linked to the question of the army's entry into the south, Minister Butrus said: You are always rushing things. The army wants to enter the south. We are exerting the necessary efforts for this purpose. The army will enter the south, God willing. I see no obstacle preventing the renewal of the UN forces' mandate.

To a final question on whether he specified to Mr Urquhart the quarter which is hindering the army's entry into the south, Butrus said: Mr Urquhart is an experienced man and by virtue of his position he is informed and does not require such information from us. Nevertheless, we conveyed to him the necessary information.

Urquhart is due to resume his consultations at 1700 today with Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss at the prime minister's home in Ad-Dawhah.

Meets President Sarkis

NC191124Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] At 1100 today President Ilyas Sarkis met with UN Under Secretary for Political Affairs Brian Urquhart, who was accompanied by John Saunders, representative of the UN secretary general in Lebanon. The discussions dealt with the situation in southern Lebanon and the obstacles delaying the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 425 and 426, the entry of the army to the border area, and the restoration of legality and Lebanese sovereignty in the area.

The meeting lasted until 1210. Urquhart later made the following statement: As you know, I arrived here on an assignment given to me by the UN secretary general to discuss with Lebanese officials and all those concerned the current situation and the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425 on southern Lebanon. As you know, there are a number of problems. The UN secretary general is seriously trying to find a solution to these problems. I held useful talks today with President Sarkis. I acquainted myself with his very clear views in relation to these problems. I hope to convey these to the secretary general along with the outcome of other talks which I will have in Lebanon so that the secretary general may determine the position he should adopt.

Al-Huss, Urquhart Meet

NC191755Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] At 1700 today Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss received at his home in Ad-Dawhah the UN under secretary for political affairs, Brian Urquhart. Mr Urquhart was accompained by the UN emergency forces coordinator, Gen Ensio Siilasvuo; the UNIFIL commander, Gen Emmanuel Erskine; the deputy commander, General Cuq; General Erskine's political adviser; and the director of the UN information office in Beirut, Samir Sanbar.

The meeting ended at 1830. Prime Minister al-Huss later said: The visit of the UN under secretary expresses the determination of the United Nations and its secretary general to help Lebanon in restoring its legitimate authority over southern Lebanon by all means. We discussed with the UN under secretary the various aspects of the situation arising from the resistance which the military unit in Kawkaba is meeting from Israel, thus preventing it from continuing its advance to perform its mission.

The discussions naturally dealt with the current UN diplomatic efforts to enable the Lebanese Army to enter the southern area as part of the UN peace-keeping forces task in the south, as provided for in the UN Security Council resolutions. These call for stationing the UN peace-keeping forces in the whole of southern Lebanon prior to handing it over to the legitimate Lebanese authority. He added: The discussions also dealt with future steps which can be adopted at the UN Security Council level, particularly since the council is supposed to convene about the middle of next month to discuss a report by the UN secretary general on the progress being made in the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 425 and 426 and subsequently to consider a request which Lebanon is expected to make for extending the mandate of the UN peace-keeping forces in the south. The discussions naturally dealt with other aspects of the subject directly or indirectly related to the satisfactory deployment of the UN forces and also the Lebanese force in the south.

UN Under Secretary Urquhart said: I thank the prime minister for receiving me. It was a suitable opportunity to meet him and exchange views on mutual questions and problems. As you know, UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim has asked me to make this visit and contact the parties concerned and the Lebanese officials in order to ascertain the progress being made in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425 and subsequently to contact UN officials Gen Ensio Siilasvuo and Gen Emmanuel Erskine to discuss this subject. The discussions with the prime minister have helped me to obtain a clear view of the pending questions.

Leaves for Southern Lebanon

NC201121Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Text] UN Undersecretary for Political Affairs Brian Urquhart left today for the south to inspect the UN forces operating there. He held a meeting at the UN headquarters in An-Naqurah. The meeting was attended by the Chief Coordinator of the UN forces in the Middle East, General Siilasvuo; the UNIFIL commander, Major General Erskine; and the UNIFIL deputy commander, Brig Gen Jean-Paul Cuq.

Urquhart was briefed on the difficulties facing UNIFIL in implementing the tasks assigned to it in southern Lebanon in accordance with the Security Council resolutions. He then left for Kawkaba, where he inspected the UN forces there.

Visits Kawkaba, Leaves for Israel

NC210602Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] UN Undersecretary for Political Affairs Brian Urquhart visited the Kawkaba area yesterday and inspected UNIFIL positions in the area before leaving by car for Israel in the evening. Informed sources said that Lebanon gave Mr Urquhart a number of questions to submit to the Israelis regarding their position on southern Lebanon. He is due to bring the answers to these questions tomorrow.

The sources said that in making this move, Lebanon does not seek Israel's opinion about the movement of the Lebanese Army in southern Lebanon, but it does want the Israeli answers as evidence for the consideration of Waldheim and the United Nations if it becomes necessary to call for a Security Council meeting once again to compel Israel to stop hindering the implementation of Resolutions 425 and 426 and, perhaps, to develop the UNIFIL into a deterrent force to carry out the two resolutions.

SHAM'UN, WEIZMAN REPORTEDLY MEET SECRETLY ON ISRAELI VESSEL

NC211107Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1018 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Doha, 21 August--The Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB reports from Beirut that widely informed Lebanese and Arab sources have revealed to the paper that Camille Sham'un, the leader of the Lebanese rightist front, has secretly met twice in the past 4 days with Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. The sources explained that the two meetings were held on an Israeli war vessel outside Lebanese territorial waters.

The sources said that an Israeli helicopter picked Sham'un up at night near the port of Juniyah and flew him to the Israeli vessel. The sources said that Sham'un was accompanied by three people, two of them prominent military men and the third a politician.

The sources pointed out that it is difficult to know what went on in the meetings. However, the flow of Israeli weapons to the eastern sector of Beirut, the heavy guard on the Lebanese coast near Juniyah, and the anchoring of a number of ships in secondary ports controlled by the Phalangist-Sham'unist alliance indicate that the two meetings dealt with efforts to strengthen the rightist front militarily. This means that a serious explosion of the situation in Lebanon has become imminent.

VOICE OF LEBANON: AL-JUMAYYIL INSPECTS BEIRUT PORT

NC181208Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 18 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The interest of economists and observers was today focused on the resumption of operations at Beirut port, which was opened this morning, slowly at first.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil has inspected the port area, affirming that all facilities will be given to resuming the operation of the port. He called on all parties to work toward the success of the operation while the Internal Security Forces assume their role in this field to consolidate confidence, reassurance and security.

Al-Jumayyil has contacted Beirut port Chairman Henry Far'awn, supporting his stand regarding the resumption of work in the port. Far'awn thanked Al-Jumayyil, affirming his determination to keep the port open and hoping for the support of all parties. Al-Jumayyil also expressed the party's positive support in this respect.

The movement in the port began with slight activity at first, coupled with evidence of preparations for increased operation. However, this movement was disrupted at midday when two shells fell in the port area. The source of the shells is still unknown.

Makes Statement

NC191514Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1415 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpts] In a statement made today, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil stressed the necessity of implementing the security measures in full and said that all political, economic and social conditions are closely tied to the security situation.

Answering a question regarding a statement by the Syrian minister of foreign affairs that his government supports the implementation of agreements, Al-Jumayyil said: If Syria had succeeded in inducing the other party to implement what had been agreed upon we would not need to call now for sovereignty and security and for Lebanese legality in all parts of the country. Regarding the reopening of Beirut port, Al-Jummayil said: In our view, the port is an economic utility and very necessary in the promotion of economic activity in the country. It is needless to reaffirm that we are exerting all our efforts to provide the necessary ways and means to reopen this vital port. I inspected the port area yesterday to encourage its reopening; however, we must admit that the support and encouragement of one side is not adequate. There must be a unanimous agreement by all the parties concerned, particularly those who can contribute toward the implementation of the security measures in the capital and its suburbs. Hence, every economic, trade or social movement will automatically become active. No need to repeat that given security, a Lebanese can undertake the rest.

AL-HUSS MAKES STATEMENT ON REOPENING OF PORT

NC1914l3Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1255 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 19 August--Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has threatened to expose those obstructing the reopening of Beirut port if the port is shelled again.

He said: Our call for the reopening of the port is a principled one and there is no retreat. We will do our utmost to eliminate security obstacles. He added: Officers of the deterrent forces were asked to observe the sources of fire before we called for the resumption of work in the port. We succeeded yesterday in determining the source.

Answering a question about the government's position if the port is attacked again, he said: I believe that in the future it will be necessary to expose the quarters obstructing the operation of this important economic sector, whoever they may be.

It has been reported that a dispute between the Political Bureau of the Phalangist Party and the party's War Council under Bashir al-Jumayyil's chairmanship was behind the shelling of the port yesterday and that Sham'un played the role of instigator.

Some sources said that the dispute led to breaking the pledges which Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil made to the officials in charge of the port administration. These sources noted that the decision of the Political Bureau of the Phalangist Party was to insure security for the reopening of the port as a result of pressure by businessmen members of the bureau and by various other economic establishments.

Meanwhile, other sources said that the reported dispute was merely an adjustment of roles and that the decision of the rightist militia is to keep the port issue as a means for pressuring the deterrent forces to withdraw from strategic positions in the eastern area in Beirut as agreed upon according to sources of the Lebanese Front.

Well-informed sources have confirmed that there is no agreement calling for the deterrent forces withdrawal from specific positions and that the whole matter involved nothing more than limited moves and redeployment of forces. These sources have also confirmed that the port was not included in any agreement with the deterrent forces.

LEBANESE FORCES COMMAND HOLDS MEETING

NC181440Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1415 GMT 18 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The commander of the Lebanese Forces today chaired a meeting of the Lebanese Forces Command at the headquarters of the second sector. During the meeting he reviewed the political and military situation in the country. The meeting was attended by officers in charge of Badaru, At-Tayyunah, At-Tahwitah, Furn ash-Shubbak, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Ash-Shiyah and Al-'Adliyah areas.

Men of a unit of the Lebanese Forces were seen wearing their unified uniform following the unification of uniforms and insignia.

PHALANGIST EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETS

NC191946Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] The Phalangist Emergency Committee held a meeting at Sayyidat al-Bir Monastery today. It discussed a number of reports on the social, political, economic and security conditions in Lebanon and the possibilities in the near and distant future.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. Phalangist Secretary General Lawyer Joseph Sa'adah, Phalangist War Council Chief Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, Financial Council Chairman Elie Tuma, Social and Health Council Chairman Elie Karamah, the AL-'AMAL newspaper chief editor, Joseph Abu Khalil, and the Voice of Lebanon Radio's director general, Joseph al-Hashim, attended the meeting.

The meeting opened at 1000 today; It continued until 1700 with a brief recess at noon. Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil attended part of the afternoon discussions.

DPA REPORTS FIGHTING AMONG PLO MEMBERS IN BEIRUT

NC181751Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1718 GMT 18 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 18 August--Eyewitnesses said here today that policemen of the PLO have helped in containing the fighting which broke out among warring PLO emements in the 'Ayn al-Hilwah area in southern Beirut. The eyewitnesses said that the fighting had gone on during the night.

It has been reported that the warring Palestinians had used heavy weapons and rockets in the fighting. No details were given about any casualties of this fighting up to midday today.

DETERRENT FORCES QUOTED ON SECURITY SITUATION

NC181234Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Aug 78 NC

[Text] A responsible source at the Arab Deterrent Forces Command has made a statement on the situation in the port and on the security situation in general. He said: In accordance with the security measures and the contacts held with the various parties concerned, the operation of the port was resumed at 0700 today. However, at 0915 two shells exploded. The Arab Deterrent Forces surveillance unit in the port area, which was deployed yesterday noon, when it was decided to resume the port's operation, has confirmed that the two shells were fired from the east. The range of these shells is 400 meters. There were no losses in life. Work in the port was resumed, although some confusion was created by the explosions.

Apart from this, calm continues in Beirut and its suburbs. Traffic has been heavy in various areas. However, the Al-Ashrafiyah area is witnessing some military preparations by armed men some tens of meters from the positions of the deterrent forces. These forces have seen some armed men transporting ammunition boxes in civilian vehicles to their positions opposite the deterrent forces. The deterrent forces refrained from intervening in order to make further initiatives for consolidating the security situation in general. It is known that the armed manifestations in Al-Ashrafiyah, Furn ash-Shubbak and Al-Hadath remained almost unchanged. This situation prevents the people from returning to their homes and from resuming their work.

ARMED VEHICLES, ROADBLOCKS IN WESTERN BEIRUT

NC210545Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] We have now received the following information: Armed vehicles have appeared in the Al-Barbir area and in some of the quarters of the western sector of Beirut. Some roadblocks were set up on the roads. This calls for caution.

ARMY UNIT COMMANDER RETURNS TO KAWKABA

NC190647Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The southern front commander, Staff Lt Col Adib Sa'd returned to Kawkaba yesterday after an absence of 3 days. During this time he met with the army command in Al-Yarzi to become acquainted with the latest developments connected with the position of the military contingent which has been in Kawkaba since 31 July.

He said there is nothing new regarding the army contingent's move to its planned position in Tibnin.

HADDAD'S FORCES SAID TO BE SHELLING IN S. LEBANON

TA191915Y Paris AFP in English 1827 GMT 19 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Beirut, 19 Aug (AFP)--Tanks of Major Sa'd Haddad's conservative forces today bombarded the Hasbani River basin in south Lebanon from the village of Al-Khiyam, a few kilometres (miles) south of Marj 'Uyun, correspondents in the area reported. Two persons were injured in the shelling which started several fires in nearby olive groves, the correspondents said.

Four days ago the village of Hasbayya in the same area was bombarded by Major Haddad's militiamen, using heavy artillery.

The village and the river basin are in the eastern section of the Lebanese frontier zone. Hasbayya, whose population is Druze, is about 15 kilometres (10 miles) from the border.

LEBANESE ARMY COMMAND DENIES REPORTED DESERTIONS

NC191527Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 19 August--The Lebanese Army Command has denied reports that some soldiers have recently joined the Arab Army of Lebanon and some of them joined the Palestinian organizations.

A statement issued by the command in this respect said that the reports published yesterday in the newspapers AL-'AMAL and LE REVEIL are unfounded and are aimed at creating confusion and anxiety.

KUWAITI PAPER SAYS ISRAELI FIGHTERS ARRIVE IN LEBANON

NC2008347 Doha QNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 20 August--In a dispatch from Beirut, the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN reports today that 4,000 Israeli fighters have arrived in Lebanon to support the isolationist forces. The paper says that the Israeli forces include experts in supply operations and armored and artillery crews trained in the use of antitank rockets and that they have been provided with identity cards to facilitate their movement at the checkpoints.

AL-WATAN reveals that there is a plan to assassinate a member of the resistance and the Lebanese National Movement leaders and that the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement have arrested a number of persons who are being interrogated in complete secrecy.

QATARI PAPER: ISRAEL SUPPLIES TANKS TO RIGHTISTS

NC2111007 Doha QNA in Arabic 1008 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Doha, 21 August--In a special dispatch from Beirut, the Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB reports today that well-informed sources in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement have confirmed to AL-'ARAB's correspondent that the isolationist forces in southern Lebanon have recently received a number of tanks, modern tracked vehicles and four military helicopters from the Zionist enemy

These sources said that 80 members of the isolationist forces in southern Lebanon have been trained in modern tanks which Israel recently received from the United States and that 8 tanks and 20 tracked vehicles were delivered a week ago to Maj Sa'd Haddad, commander of the isolationist alliance in southern Lebanon.

The Lebanese sources confirmed that 15 military jeeps with 106mm guns mounted on them, over 3,000 sophisticated M-16 rifles and large quantities of ammunition were delivered to the isolationists.

These sources also explained that Israel recently gave the isolationists a mobile radar to detect Syrian and Lebanese Air Force movements. The sources noted that the isolationists are using helicopters for reconnaissance and for intimidating the people in southern villages.

VILLAGERS REPORTEDLY DEMONSTRATE AGAINST ISRAEL, MILITIAS

NC1712157 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 17 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 17 August--Reports from southern Lebanon indicate that the inhabitants of Mays al-Jabal village, situated on the border with Israel, staged a big demonstration yesterday against excesses by the Israelis and rightist militias.

The demonstration was stages as the Israeli authorities were handing over the body of a student from the village who had been killed by the rightist militias. The student was 14 years old and his body was found in a neighboring village.

Reports indicate that this incident is only one of many, which are being repeated daily. The armed rightist militias have been kidnaping citizens, accusing them of partisan affiliations, torturing them to the point of death and then removing them to one of the Israeli hospitals in Zefat.

ARAB ARMY OF LEBANON ELEMENTS SET UP BARRIERS IN SIDON

NC191303Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon received information at noon today to the effect that remnants of the so-called Arab Army of Lebanon are setting up armed barriers in Al-Mi'mariyah and Al-Hazza on the approaches to Sidon. They are trying to intercept the soldiers stationed in the Sidon barracks and prevent them from rea...ng their barracks. According to our information, the inhabitants of Al-Mi'mariyah and Al-Hazza villages have strongly resented the actions of these armed remnants and demanded that they be disbanded.

In Beirut, the Voice of Lebanon has learned that a column of about 25 tanks moved at noon today from positions in the area of Beirut International Airport in the direction of the combat school where they took up new positions. Military trucks were seen transporting sandbags to set up barriers and fortifications.

TWO ISRAELI PLANES FLY OVER LEBANESE COAST

NC211008Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] At 1245 today two Israeli aircraft flew over the coast from Shikka southward. The planes broke the sound barrier while flying off the capital, Beirut.

Air Activity in South Intensifies

NC211131Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 21 Aug 78 NC

[Text] A short while ago, the Voice of Lebanon received reports from the south to the effect that intensive Israeli air activity is taking place over the border area.

INA: MARONITE LEADER SUFAYR TAKES REFUGE IN TRIPOLI

JN181939Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 18 August--The moderate Maronite leader Henri Sufayr, disguised as a monk, took refuge in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, today after fleeing from the Kasrawan area, which is controlled by the rightist militias.

Sufayr, whose family is the defender of the traditions of the Maronite patriarchate, asserted that the Maronite bishops are all being extorted and dominated by the Phalangist Party.

He said that he will hold a press conference on Monday to expose the schemes of this party aimed at dominating the Maronite sect and Lebanon.

AL-ASAD, FRANJIYAH CONTINUE 18 AUGUST TALKS IN LATAKIA

JN182026Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] Latakia--The meeting between His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and former Lebanese President His Excellency Sulayman Franjiyah resumed at 2000 tonight in the presidential palace at Latakia. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Fahmi al-Yusufi, deputy prime minister for services affairs; Adib Milhim, minister of state for presidential affairs; Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of the General Staff; Lebanese Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi; and Mr Ramiz Khazin.

His Excellency President Franjiyah visited the Kassab area this afternoon and returned to the presidential palace in Latakia at 1630.

Further Details

JN190542Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] Latakia--The meeting between His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and former Lebanese President His Excellency Sulayman Franjiyah resumed at 2000 yesterday in the presidential palace at Latakia.

During this meeting, they continued discussion of the Lebanese situation and its political and security aspects; the obstacles being placed before the legitimate authorities to prevent them from extending their sovereignty over all Lebanese territory; the means to achieve the unity of the Lebanese people and territory; and the ways to repulse conspiracies aimed at hindering the peace march and sabotaging the reconstruction of Lebanon's institutions. Views were identical on all issues discussed.

Talks Conclude

JN191140Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Latakia--His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and His Excellency former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah held a final meeting at 0930 today at the presidential palace in Latakia. The meeting lasted about 1 hour. At the end of the meeting, President Franjiyah spoke to newsmen about the results of the visit. He expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome accorded him. He said: President Hafiz al-Asad is today the sole hope of every Arab citizen. Syria today is the only hope of every Arab for liberating the occupied areas.

Asnwering a question on the future of Lebanon, he said that as long as President Hafiz al-Asad devotes all his attention to restoring normal life to Lebanon, he has great hope that life will return to normal.

Asked about the impact of his visit on all aspects of the situation in Lebanon, he said: I have great hopes that the Lebanese citizens will understand that the sole purpose of the noble Syrian initiative is to serve them.

Asked about accusations that the deterrent forces are striking at Christians, he said this accusation is cheap because the facts are clear to Lebanese citizens.

His Excellency President Sulayman Franjiyah left the presidential palace at 1100 today. He was seen off by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. He was accompanied to the borders by Deputy Prime Minister for Services Affairs Fahmi al-Yusufi and Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Adib Milhim.

LIBYA

JALLUD RETURNS TO TRIPOLI FROM VISITS TO PRC, DPRK, PAKISTAN

LD181210Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] Tripoli--Yesterday evening Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud returned to Tripoli from Pakistan on the completion of his official 2-week visit to the PRC, the DPRK and Pakistan.

MAURITANIA

PARIS RADIO INTERVIEWS MOHAMED OULD SALECK

LD201850Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] A further addition to the Western Sahara dossier: an interview with the new Mauritanian head of state, Lt Col Ould Saleck. Our special correspondent (Francois Vicard) has met the man who has headed the Mauritanian state since 10 July. Ould Saleck commented on what should follow the unilateral cease-fire declared by the POLISARIO Front on 12 July. Is this the beginning of a dialog between Nouakchott and the POLISARIO Front? One is not quite there yet, but, as you can hear, the new Mauritanian president will not refuse to allow the populations to express themselves.

[Begin Ould Saleck recording] It is obvious that we have not committed ourselves to entering into contact with the POLISARIO, because as soon as there is a gesture of reply or question and answer, there is a commitment to a dialog. This has not come about yet. But I admit that there is no difficulty, no inconvenience in contemplating a free expression by the populations. [end recording]

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN REITERATES SUPPORT FOR MAURITANIA

LD210040Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2125 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Speech to the nation by King Hassan II on the 20 August anniversary of the exile of the late King Mohamed V--live]

[Excerpt] I told you, my dear people, that events are rapidly occurring. We would never have thought, 1 month ago, that important events, very important events, would occur in our neighbor and sister country Mauritania. You all know well the impact of these events on our country and our homeland. In addition to assuming our duty toward our own country, we must be capable of fulfilling our commitments to our neighbor, ally and friend Mauritania. As a matter of fact, Morocco has pledged to Mauritania, regardless of who its rulers are--because that is a domestic matter--Morocco has pledged to Mauritania to be its ally. This means that Morocco will share with it good and hard times, not only with words, but with financial assistance, teachers, doctors, active diplomacy and an army on the alert, on standby, always ready to aid our ally and stand by it.

Many things have been said, and even if it had not been the occasion of the 20 August anniversary, my dear people, I would have spoken to you anyway about the Mauritanian issue and the Moroccan-Mauritanian future, because, thank God, as usual there are links and connections between you and me, though they may be invisible.

Night and day, I am preoccupied with this problem. My dear people, first I would like to tell you what I know, and I will not hide anything I know from you, because I have been told and have been informed officially in writing by Mauritanian officials that Mauritania still adheres to its commitments and treaties with Morocco. I tell you, dear people, that the Mauritanian officials do not intend to make any move without consultation and full coordination with Morocco. So regarding this, you can be at rest.

But we must not stop here; we must somehow think and apply logic: the situation in Morocco is not the same as the situation in Mauritania. Mauritania has problems concerning the Sahara, which it has recovered, and concerning the members of the opposition who have joined the ranks of the POLISARIO. As far as Morocco is concerned, we do not have such problems. Consequently, if Mauritania chooses a line, we must stand by it on condition that--and this is known both to officials and to the man in the street--on condition that the settlement of its problems does not trespass on a single inch of Moroccan territory and that it does not create foreign borders between the Moroccan and Mauritanian borders. More precisely, and more clearly, I say: Morocco has no problem, Morocco demands nothing; but Morocco shall give nothing.

Within this context, Morocco will always be at the side of Mauritania, whatever line it takes. Morocco has borders with Mauritania; Morocco does not want to be separated from Mauritania by borders other than the existing Moroccan-Mauritanian borders. So our position is clear, and we have made it clear to our Mauritanian brothers, to our ministers and officers. We have made it clear to some friendly heads of state. We had to make it clear to you, my dear people, and to make it clear to the world over radio and television.

I say this to my brothers in Mauritania: Beware! Beware of falling for the ruse. Those who are wooing you now are those who created, financed, trained and armed those who have recently been killing your sons and trampling your dignity underfoot. Now that you know, the choice is yours, for a sovereign, independent state of Mauritania. But if circumstances--I do not say Mauritania--if circumstances, or the ruse, help in bringing about a regime adjacent to the borders of Morocco which is at variance, in its line and philosophy, with the Moroccan and Mauritanian regimes, this is a matter that can be accepted neither by Mauritania nor by Morocco. If such an event occurs, the two states will find themselves under the obligation--given the treaties between them--to assume their responsibilities. This being said, we want just peace in this area.

We now want to answer two states which have not always adopted a position of objectivity toward Morocco, as expected from them, or even a position that is not self-contradictory. We say to the first one, which is far from us and whose head continues to nurse appreciation for the late President 'Abd an-Nasir, we say to it: In 1956 I was crown prince when President 'Abd an-Nasir made his speech on the nationalization of the Suez Canal. I was present in military uniform, representing my father--God bless his soul--and the royal armed forces. 'Abd an-Nasir then said the following words, repeating them seven times: We fight him who fights us, and we make peace with him who makes peace with us. You, the self-appointed caliph, the successor of 'Abd an-Nasir, you should at least follow this [word indistinct], and realize that it is also the duty of Morocco to make peace with him who makes peace with it, and to fight him who fights it.

I say to the second state: Many times I have heard your head of state say: My country is quiet and happy within its borders. I say this, too: My country is quiet and happy within its borders; let no one dare trespass on my country, because it likes to be quiet and carefree. But if something happens, my country will take what it will take.

These words are, however, not a threat, as my education and my ethics forbid me to make threats. I cannot threaten a head of state. But it is my right to remind him of the principle of reciprocity.

This is kind of a golden rule: If you want to make peace with him who makes peace with you and to fight with him who fights you, all right; this rule applies to you and to Morocco. You find quiet and happiness within your borders and I find quiet and happiness within my borders. If we are real Moslems, we must apply the following words of the Prophet: A real Moslem wishes others what he wishes for himself.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO SPOKESMAN CALLS ON MOROCCO TO ACCEPT UN DECISIONS

LD171421Y Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 11,12 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Brussels--APS--The Moroccan foreign minister's recent statement that "Morocco favors sending a mission to Western Sahara to learn the views of its inhabitants," reveals "maneuvering much more than sincerity," in the opinion of Abdel Fettah Mahmoud, POLISARIO representative in Europe, who released a statement in Brussels Wednesday.

The Saharan leader, who stresses that the Moroccan Government's attitude is characterized by mistrust and the failure to recognize the decisions reached by international institutions, invokes the major resolutions on the decolonization of Western Sahara reached by the United Nations, the OAU and the conference of nonalined countries and then goes on to stress the important conclusions--which recommend the completion of the decolonization of Western Sahara--which emerged from the UN mission of inquiry led by Simeon Ake and Olof Rydbeck, UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's personal representative, after visiting Western Sahara.

Abdel Fettah points out that "nobody--and especially not the Moroccan expansionist regime--is unaware that a decolonization process has been halted and that within this context and in accordance with Resolution 1514 regarding the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, a mission of inquiry headed by Simeon Ake, currently the Ivory Coast minister of foreign affairs, visited Western Sahara in May 1975." But also and above all, he adds, that mission's report shows no ambiguity regarding the Saharan people's rejection of the Moroccan and Mauritanian expansionist theses and that people's desire to live independently under the POLISARIO's leadership, pointing out also that Mr Ake's recommendations were adopted by the UN General Assembly at its 30th session and recently also by the Khartoum OAU summit.

Abdel Fettah continues by saying: "Nor is anybody unaware that the UN secretary general sent an eminent emissary in the person of Ambassador Olof Rydbeck to report to him on the situation in Western Sahara and that the latter clearly concluded that the occupying forces are a real obstacle to the decolonization of the territory." "During his second mission Morocco even refused to receive him, declaring him persona non grata." "The UN secretary general will certainly report on this to this year's UN General Assembly in accordance with the resolution of the 17th session of the United Nations [as published]," he adds.

"The Moroccan expansionist regime must therefore accept the conclusions of these two missions and conform to the UN Charter and its resolutions instead of preventing their implementation by a colonial expedition aimed at seriously altering the parameters of a simple and normal decolonization by depriving a people of their rights and sharing their territory by force of arms."

TWO KILLED, EIGHT WOUNDED IN LONDON TERRORIST ATTACK

TA201524Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Aug 78 TA

[Excerpts] Two hours ago, terrorists attacked a bus full of El Al stewards in London. London police said that there are two killed and two wounded. One terrorist was apparently killed and one was captured by the police. Ten wounded were brought to Middlesex Hospital in London after the attack on the El Al crew, who were on their way to the Europa Hotel in the center of the city. Two of the wounded have since died. More details are broadcast from the London hospital by our London correspondent, Mikha'el Almaz.

[Almaz--live] One man and one woman were killed. The woman is probably an El Al stewardess. As for those who were wounded, five of them are now being operated on, among them another stewardess.

All those who were wounded were hit by shots which were probably fired from machineguns.

Eyewitnesses have said that after the shooting there were several explosions, but the hospital spokeswoman told me that all those who were wounded were injured as a result of the shooting. As for the wounded, the spokeswoman could not determine whether they were Israeli or not. She told me she thought most of them were British.

Police arrived at the hotel immediately after the attack. A police car pursued a young Arab and, following a struggle, detained him. He is now being held at the police station near the Europa Hotel. The hotel has been the traditional hotel for El Al for many years and is located near the U.S. Embassy in the center of London. Back to the studio.

[Announcer] Our correspondent, Shemu'el Tal, talked on the phone with the chief steward as well as with one of the stewards from the crew which was attacked.

[Tal--live or recorded] The El Al crew of 21 arrived in London today on their way from New York. The crew arrived at the Europa Hotel 2 and 1/2 hours late, because today the crew was subjected to a surprise inspection. When the bus arrived at the hotel, the flight superintendent, Moshe Parnas, got off with a list of the crewmembers. The pilot was not with them and therefore Parnas entered [the hotel] to arrange lodging. He says that within 2 minutes he heard explosions outside the hotel and the sound of shooting. Jacques Merav, the chief steward on the flight, who was on his way from the bus [to the hotel] at that moment says that the first terrorist he spotted was standing not far from that bus.

Police forces immediately surrounded the hotel and closed off the roads on all sides. A member of the Israeli consulate was hurriedly brought to the site and contact was made with El Al. Moshe Parnas says that he immediately made up a list of the crewmembers and passed the list to the El Al office at Heathrow Airport from where the information was transmitted to Lod and to Tel Aviv.

A constant guard has been assigned to the crewmembers. It will remain with them all through the night and perhaps even tomorrow as well.

Moshe Parnas says that at the time [of the shooting] a wedding ceremony was taking place at the hotel. To his great surprise, he said, the ceremony was not interrupted as a result of the attack.

[Announcer] The London police announced that a search has been launched to find another terrorist who took part in the attack but managed to escape. The search is underway in the West End.

IDF SPOKESMAN: PLANES ATTACK TERRORIST BASES IN LEBANON

TA210514Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The IDF spokesman has announced that air force planes attacked two terrorist bases this morning in Ad-Damur and Burj al-Barajinah in Lebanon. Our planes returned to their bases intact. The air attack came in the wake of the bloody attack on the El Al crew in London, the IDF spokesman said.

Our monitor, Mikha'el Gurdus, reports that Beirut Radio announced that two Israeli planes first flew low over Beirut and then attacked the refugee camps. According to Beirut Radio, fire was opened on the planes. There was no announcement of casualties in the wake of the air attack.

BEGIN MAKES STATEMENT ON CABINET DELIBERATIONS

NC201318Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1126 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[From the Midday Newsreel: interview with Prime Minister Menahem Begin by political correspondent Shalom Qital and others, live, after the cabinet meeting on 20 August]

[Text] [Qital] We would like to hear from you, Mr Prime Minister, about the cabinet meeting and the discussions that were held.

[Begin] With pleasure, Mr Qital. The cabinet has started discussions in preparation for the Camp David summit. We have not yet ended this discussion, which was serious and fundamental. We will conclude it at next Sunday's cabinet session--that is, the final session prior to our departure for the United States. We leave for the United States on Sunday, 3 September. That is to say, just prior to the opening of the conference at Camp David, we will not have a cabinet session in full formation. But next Sunday, when the cabinet will meet in full formation, we will sum up the discussions--I presume--by adopting decisions. I cannot promise you, at present, that we will make our decisions public next Sunday. It is very possible that the decisions we adopt next week as well should remain secret for the sake of Israel's supreme interest, and that we will reveal them to the U.S. President and the Egyptian president when we meet them at Camp David. But we will decide this next week. Today we began concrete discussions in preparation for the summing-up discussions. We will also have the recommendations of our experts--of the committee which I appointed--to make these arrangements.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Begin, you are talking about a full formation [of the cabinet]. Are any discussions anticipated in a formation of ministerial committees or discussions attended by you as well as by the defense minister and the foreign minister?

[Begin] All the discussions will be held within the framework of the cabinet. However, I have appointed four friends to serve as an expert committee. I have asked them to submit their recommendations to us on Thursday. They have promised to do so in order that every cabinet member will receive the recommendations 1 or 2 days prior to the cabinet meeting. Every cabinet member, when he comes to the discussions, or the summing-up discussions, can also rely on the recommendations which will be submitted to us.

[Qital] Mr Begin, you said that the decisions might remain secret. However, it is well known that you support the method of partial settlements which can be converted into permanent settlements if it is not possible to attain a peace treaty. Do you really think the plan which you will take to Camp David is a practical one?

[Begin] Yes, I certainly do think so. If the cabinet agrees with this idea next week, I will convey it to the U.S. President and to the Egyptian president. The problem is whether Egypt will agree to it. If Egypt does not agree to it, I want to note that we prefer a peace treaty. Then we will return to a peace treaty.

[Unidentified correspondent] Has the cabinet received requests or wishes from the U.S. Government about what we will be facing?

[Begin] The answer is negative.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Begin, we understand that your stand and the stand of the Israeli Government is that an overall settlement is preferable to a partial and permanent settlement...

[Begin--interrupting] There is no doubt about that.

[Correspondent] Do you think that a partial and permanent settlement is more possible, more practical, at the moment?

[Begin] We will know this only when we sit at the table at Camp David. We will clarify these problems directly with the Egyptian president.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Begin, you said that you opened discussions today in preparation for the Camp David conference; can one assume that certain ministers brought new ideas or new options or new alternatives concerning the negotiations?

[Begin] This is one of the questions I will not answer today. As I said before, I ask you to give us time to adopt decisions. These decisions will be adopted only during the next session. I ask for your understanding. As I said before, it is possible that next week's decisions will also remain secret. The problems are too delicate, too complicated and very important for the people of Israel. It is better not to allow curiosity to lead to a premature revelation of these decisions.

[Qital] Do you know who will be traveling to Camp David with you?

[Begin] The cabinet will decide this next Sunday. Please have patience. It's only 7 days.

[Qital] It is no secret...

[Begin] No. We have not yet decided.

[Unidentified correspondent] [question indistinct]

[Begin] We will consider this.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Begin, will you recommend that the deputy prime minister join you at Camp David?

[Begin] I can give a positive answer to that question.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will the meeting at Camp David bring about the resumption of the Military and Political committees' meetings between Israel and Egypt?

[Begin] We hope so.

[Qital] Mr Prime Minister, thank you very much. We now return you to the studio.

THREE VIEWS ON CAMP DAVID TALKS EMERGING IN CABINET

TA201451Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Aug 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Dani'el Bloch]

[Excerpt] Observers judge that three major groups will be noted in the cabinet's discussions today. One group is headed by Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, who believe that the trend of partial settlement stands the best chance at the Camp David summit conference, although they will officially seek to achieve a comprehensive settlement and a declaration of principles.

The second trend is supported, among others, by Ministers Landau, Horowitz and Sharon, who do not see any room for change in the government's peace plan, do not think that Israel should go to the summit with new proposals and are not satisfied with the idea of a partial settlement which in their opinion would amount to Israeli concessions without anything real in return and without peace.

The third trend is supported by 'Ezer Weizman and some of the Liberal Party ministers, who believe that the greatest effort should be dedicated to achieving progress toward a comprehensive settlement--if it is found that As-Sadat reverts to the positions he expressed in his talk with Weizman in Egypt on 30 March and in his talks in July with the head of the Labor Party, Shim'on Peres, in Vienna and with 'Ezer Weizman in Salzburg. In maintaining these positions, As-Sadat was distinguishing between the subject of the border in the Sinai and the subject of the West Bank and an extended Israeli military presence. He also expressed readiness to accept a functional settlement for an interim period in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. In case As-Sadat is prepared to move in these directions after a declaration of principles, ministers like Weizman believe we should not miss the opportunity to move toward a full settlement. As-Sadat also made it clear that if he reaches a satisfactory conclusion on the subject of the West Bank, he will sign an agreement with Israel even if King Husayn refuses to join.

BEGIN URGES CAUTION IN TERMING CAMP DAVID TALKS CRUCIAL

NC200650Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] In an interview with the Israeli Arabic-language daily AL ANBA', Prime Minister Menahem Begin cautioned against a U.S. intention to submit a proposal of its own at Camp David. He added that the United States is not a party to the Middle East conflict, and that this conflict should be solved by the parties concerned.

The prime minister said that one should be cautious about saying that the Camp David talks will be crucial. As a matter of fact, he said, these talks will be very important but they will not be the end of the road, and they will be followed by more talks. Mr Begin said that he has learned that President Carter has not set a definite time for the duration of the talks and that he is prepared to devote up to 10 days to them. Mr Begin added that this is a very long time.

The prime minister refused to divulge details about the concept of the permanent partial settlement prior to its submission to the U.S. and Egyptian presidents.

POST: BEGIN TO OFFER QUICK IDF PULLBACK IN SINAI

TA210649Y Jerusalem POST in English 21 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[By POST Mideast affairs editor]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will probably offer to withdraw Israel's troops to a new line in Sinai within a short period, should Egypt agree to sign an initial peace pact in place of the current 3-year-old Sinai interim accord, reliable sources said last night.

In the past the Al-'Arish-Ras Muhammad line has been mentioned as a possible redeployment line for a new Sinai agreement.

The sources said that Begin plans to table his offer formally at the tripartite summit with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. President Jimmy Carter, due to open on September 5 at Camp David, Maryland. The sources said that tne premier will call on Egypt to negotiate in detail on all outstanding issues separating the two countries, including that of Israel's civilian and security presence across Egypt's international borders in Sinai. These negotiations would be held parallel to the promotion of normal peace relations between the two countries, the sources said.

The same sources said Begin would also offer to abolish speedily the military government in the West Bank and Gaza if Jordan were persuaded to join the administration of these territories for a 5-year period, after which their future sovereignty would be negotiated. Jordan, like Egypt, would have to agree to sign an initial peace pact, paving the way for negotiating a final settlement of the territories in conditions of peaceful coexistence.

The cabinet, sitting as the Ministerial Defense Committee, began its debate yesterday on Israel's strategy for the Camp David talks. Ministerial Defense Committee deliberations are secret, so no details of yesterday's debate were released.

RABIN, DAYAN COMMENT ON PEACE CONDITIONS

TA191622Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Aug 78 TA

[Text] MK Yizhaq Rabin said that he is not sure that a territorial compromise will be acceptable to the Arabs, but that the idea has not been sufficiently examined in Israel. If Egypt's ultimate condition is a withdrawal to the 1967 borders with minor modifications, Rabin's position is clear-cut--no. However, Israel must accept the principle of withdrawal from territories and reach a permanent settlement after 5 years.

Mr Rabin spoke in the Forum for Political and Social Clarifications and Discussions, a body known to support the position of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. Mr Rabin wished the prime minister and the ministers accompanying him to Camp David success since their success is the success of the state of Israel.

Mr Dayan said he does not know of a plan for territorial compromise that would be both good for Israel and acceptable to the Arabs. At Camp David we will have to answer specific questions such as: Will the IDF forces remain in the territories? Will the settlements remain? Is a Jew allowed to purchase land in Judaea and Samaria? We have to go to the conference with the utmost possible openmindedness and with a readiness to seek meeting points between the Arabs and ourselves.

More on Dayan Remarks

TA192006Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 19 Aug 78 TA

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan believes that at the Camp David talks we should reach guidelines on the major problems and not settle for a declaration of principles as proposed by Alinement spokesmen. The foreign minister spoke at the ninth convention of the Forum for Political and Social Clarifications and discussions in Tel Aviv today. The subject of the discussions this time was the political negotiations. MK Yizhaq Rabin, who opened the discussion, said that the idea of territorial compromise should be thoroughly examined. Our correspondent, Nahman Shay, reports on the convention. [begin videotape]

[Shay] The spokesmen in the discussion are adopting tough positions. They propose caution in the negotiations and warn against a withdrawal. They applaud when the Peace Now Movement is condemned. They also applaud when Yig'al Horowitz says that Dayan and Begin are the best we have and that they are the ones who will go to Camp David.

[Dayan] When the Arabs talk about a 5-year period, the formulation they use in this connection is that after 5 years an end will come to the Israeli military conquest, to the military occupation of Israel [preceding four words in English]. From the standpoint of terminology--this is not acceptable to us. It is not acceptable to us from the standpoint of the content they propose either. When we hear this formulation, that we apparently admit that there is a military occupation from which the Arab territories will be liberated after 5 years....[sentence incomplete] However, when we talk about the content, not about formulations, when we say that we propose that the Arabs will be administratively free, that they will run their own affairs--education, agriculture and everything else they want--themselves and will set up an administrative council.... [sentence incomplete]

in the present situation, they have to get our permission to have three generators for Nabulus and when five mayors meet somewhere then this is illegal and without permission. Instead of this, when they are independent, when they are not dependent on us for their generators, and when, for the first time they have the body we call administrative--the body that cannot be prevented from holding political discussions... [sentence incomplete] This body will not have sovereign authority, but could it possibly be seriously said that such an elected council of the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip will not be the national representative of the public electing it? This is a sort of a supreme body.

[Shay] The ninth convention of this forum has come to an end. In days of political discussions this meeting of Dayan's supporters undoubtedly has a clear significance. [end videotape]

RABIN COMMENTS ON CAMP DAVID TALKS

TA181205Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Aug 78 p 21 TA

[Article by former Prime Minister MK Yizhaq Rabin: "Camp David, a Crossroads"]

[Text] Two weeks ago, I published an article in this paper entitled: "The Right Move: A Tripartite Carter-Begin-As-Sadat Meeing." Naturally, I had no prior information that the U.S. President would indeed initiate such a meeting. My evaluation then, as today, was that without a dramatic move at the highest level of the countries concerned, it will be impossible to extricate the political negotiations from the dead-end they have gotten into.

President as-Sadat has recently been under ever increasing pressure from the Arab world to break off the negotiations with Israel and fall in line with the all-Arab political line. In this way, the possibilities which had been opened up in the Middle East as a result of As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem would have been closed forever.

Moreover, the broad gap which exists between the Egyptian and Israeli positions--which was once again revealed, and quite clearly, at the Leeds Castle conference--leaves extremely little chance for any kind of agreement. The rigid announcements by Egypt which followed the Leeds Castle conference and the Weizman-As-Sadat meeting in Salzburg created a gloomy political situation.

The only way to exhaust the chances for peace or for any other political settlement was through a tripartite summit meeting, as will indeed take place at the beginning of September at Camp David, Maryland. U.S. President Jimmy Carter took upon himself a great risk by calling this meeting, but if he had not done so the risk would have been even greater. In my evaluation, a serious deterioration could then have been expected to take place in the Middle East.

It is common practice in the political world not to solve difficult problems at summit meetings. Cumulative experience from summit conferences has so far proved that, at best, a convenient atmosphere is created between the parties and directions for future action are laid down. One cannot recall a summit meeting in the past 20 years that has led to agreements.

The Camp David meeting will not be a traditional one. At that meeting it will be determined in the clearest manner whether the peace negotiations are to continue or whether their chances are extremely slim. Whatever is not agreed upon, both concerning procedural matters with respect to the negotiations and concerning the substantive framework, will certainly not be achieved in other meetings on a ministerial level that are held afterward.

Hence, Israel must regard the Camp David conference if not as a crucial meeting for the future of the negotiations, then certainly as a crossroads that will determine their direction.

Israel ought to face two problems which will have to be clearly answered at the end of the meeting.

--The first problem: What has been done by Israel, Egypt and the United States during this meeting to exhaust the chance to reach an agreement with Egypt?

To that end, Israel must examine a number of possibilities at Camp David:

--To what extent is it possible to reach any kind of agreement on the basis of the Israeli peace plan, even if certain changes must be made?

--Is it possible for the parties to reach an agreed declaration of principles? If such a declaration is reached, would it lead to any kind of agreement?

--Insofar as it turns out that it is not possible to reach either of the first two possibilities as a result of Egypt's intransigent positions, the possibility of reaching a limited agreement between Egypt and Israel must be looked into.

I would like to express satisfaction over the fact that in his Knesset speech during the most recent political debate--as well as on other occasions--Prime Minister Menahem Begin did not rule out what he called "a partial agreement with Egypt." In my opinion, during his talks in Salzburg with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, As-Sadat indirectly tried to mention the Al 'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line. In the past that line had been mentioned as a possible line for a (partial) interim agreement between Egypt and Israel.

--The second problem to which a clear answer will have to be given at the end of the Camp David conference is this: If the efforts to advance toward an agreement with Egypt through either one of the possibilities mentioned above fail, the public in Israel and Israel's friends throughout the world--particularly in the United States--will have to know quite clearly on what issues an agreement has not been reached and what were the parties' positions with respect to each of those possibilities.

The Camp David meeting provides a chance for an open rapprochement between the participating heads of state. According to U.S. publications, there is no time limit for the discussion. I am convinced that there will be a possibility for lengthy and detailed talks between President Carter, President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin. Hence the heavy responsibility that rests on Prime Minister Menahem Begin and on the ministerial team which will depart with him for Washington: to give clear answers to the two problems presented here. I wish the prime minister and his team of assistants luck in really exhausting the chances for a breakthrough toward peace.

AMBASSADOR DINITZ MEETS VANCE, SAUNDERS

NC190932Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Israeli Ambassador to the United States Simha Dinitz is continuing the preparations for the Camp David conference. Yesterday he met for this purpose with Secretary of State Vance and Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Harold Saunders. The talks centered mainly on procedural matters.

Israeli sources in Washington are apprhensive about the position the United States is liable to adopt during the talks. This comes in the wake of a remark by President Carter, which was originally coined by As-Sadat. President Carter said that the United States will be a "full partner" in the discussions. The Americans, however, are continuing to make it clear that they will not submit a peace plan of their own.

FORMER AMBASSADOR HERZOG RETURNS, COMMENTS ON SUMMIT

NC191400Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 19 Aug 78 NC

[Text] To study the issues [facing the Camp David summit], we turn to a man who knows both the American and Israeli scenes at first hand: Hayyim Herzog, just back from his tour of duty as Israel's ambassador at the United Nations, and talking, in this interview, to our reporter Shim'on Ayalon. [begin recording]

[Herzog] Well, I tend to look at this whole process from a historic point of view, and I believe that Camp David in itself is a breakthrough. Just the same as President as-Sadat's visit was a breakthrough; the Ismailia meeting; the meetings in Jerusalem; Mr Weizman's meetings--all of these were part of a historic breakthrough which is occurring.

[Question] In that case, it seems that we should not expect any spectacular breakthrough from the Camp David talks.

[Answer] You are amazingly reminiscent to me of some of my friends in the media in the United States. They always expected a breakthrough and look very disappointed if you say there is not going to be some major development. I think, as I said, that this is a major development in itself, the fact of Camp David and its part of a major historic development which has been going on for the past 10 months.

And one must look at this process historically; otherwise, you are never really going to understand what is going on. I think if wise counsel prevails that the aim of Camp David should be to set out guidelines and create the necessary machinery for the continuation of the process without the stop-go system that has been going till now--in other words, to eliminate all this business of getting up and leaving in a huff as President as-Sadat has done from time to time--and to create a system whereby the process goes on away from the lights of the media and the cameras of the media and goes on until we've achieved a solution, whether it's an overall solution or a partial solution.

After all, look at other negotiations--look at Panama. It took 13 years of continuous negotiations between the United States and the Government of Panama to achieve what was achieved. It took 4 years to achieve anything in the Vietnamese negotiations. It took 6 years for the first agreement with Germany to be achieved. Why should these negotiations, which are no less important and no less fateful for the peace of the world, be held against the background of a stopwatch and in some form of straitjacket of timing and of attitudes, which is just dangerous?

I think, therefore, that the major development that can come out from Camp David would be, as I say, machinery and guidelines for the continuation of the process in order to achieve a solution. It's obvious that President as-Sadat cannot continue with this process if he goes on as he has been in the past with this on-and-off atmosphere which he's created; whereby if he likes something or if he does not like something, he either continues or discontinues with the process. That won't work in serious negotiations, and it can't work. And I do hope that the American partners to the negotiations will clarify to him that this is not the way you conduct international negotiations.

On Israel's side, it seems to me that there is an overemphasis on the legalisms; that the lawyers have too prominent a part in the actual negotiations. Now, I've got nothing against lawyers as such--I happen to be one myself--but I do not believe that they should have the predominant say in these negotiations. And there's a great deal of opnion, both in Washington and here, which seems to indicate that rather than putting a legal cloak on the policies proposed or decided upon by the government, they tend to be taking the lead in many issues and setting out legal guidelines which tend to hamper the government's approach. The government should be completely free of a legalistic approach at this stage. At a heads of government level, at the summit level, there is really very little room for legalisms. The broad brush treatment should be really the type of treatment which should guide the negotiations at that level. [end recording]

U-2 AIRCRAFT SHOW EGYPT VIOLATING SINAI AGREEMENT

TA181309Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Aug 78 p 21 TA

[Ya'aqov Erez article: "U-2 aircraft have once again revealed: the Egyptians are violating the interim arrangement"]

The aerial photographs taken at the end of July and submitted to the appropriate Israeli bodies only a few days ago revealed that the Egyptians have 80 122mm artillery pieces--rather than 72 as allowed by the interim agreement--in the thinning-out strip along the Suez Canal. This is the first time in several months that the Egyptians have introduced into the strip east of the Suez Canal more artillery pieces than agreed upon in the interim arrangement.

The U.S. aerial photographs have proved once again that Egypt is constantly violating the interim arrangement. They showed that there are 16 battalions deployed in the area instead of 8. This is the second time in the past few months that aerial photographs taken in cooperation with the United States have pointed out the violations in the Sinai.

Israel has filed complaints many times about the Egyptians' violation of the agreement, but the United Nations has minimized the significance of the Israeli complaints and the United States has generally had its own assessment of the aerial photographs.

There is currently no disagreement; the violation does not seem to [Israel] security elements to be extreme, and in order not to harm the Camp David talks Israel is not complaining to the UN supervision forces.

The continual Egyptian violations and the new deviation in the number of artillery pieces constitute an additional indication of a military deterioration [that will take place] by October, at which time the 3 years of the interim agreement will have expired. According to Israeli estimates, the Egyptians may bring about a change in the situation in the Sinai and perhaps even launch hostile activities.

The IDF is preparing for such a possibility. On the one hand, the IDF Planning Branch is doing staff work for the Camp David talks with the aim of reaching an arrangement; on the other hand, positive preparatory activity is being carried out to prevent a surprise.

Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan, who is by nature suspicious, is simultaneously taking precautionary measures to increase alertness in order to confront a war challenge successfully if a war should break out.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin said this week at the Israeli National Defense College graduation ceremony that Israel would defend itself, if necessary, with a counterattack and would do so by transferring the war to enemy territory.

As will be recalled, a few months before the Yom Kippur war, Lt Gen David El'Azar took similar steps, but in the middle of 1973 nothing happened, and the erroneous Israeli intelligence assessments close to October 1973 are well known.

This time, too, there are intelligence assessments and alongside them there is logical thinking--not to mention the Egyptians' declarations which are doing their share. If the Camp David talks do not lead to a way out of the impasse, Egypt will have no alternative but a political and military escalation, and war may even break out. This possibility is being taken into account.

UN SOLDIERS KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENT ON GOLAN HEIGHTS

NC201123Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Two UN soldiers were killed and 13 injured this morning in a road accident near Zefat. The soldiers, who belonged to the Austrian unit stationed on the Golan heights, were traveling in a truck which came from the Syrian side of the cease-fire line. The injured were transferred to the Rambam government hospital in Haifa. This has been reported by a spokesman of the UN observers in Jerusalem.

ARMED TERRORISTS INFILTRATING SINGLY INTO S. LEBANON

TA181249Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 18 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Our correspondent reports from southern Lebanon that recently there has been increased infiltration of single armed terrorists into the region of Mazra'at al-Fukhkhar. At the same time, terrorist commanders are adamantly demanding that tne UNIFIL officers in the area remove their troops and reopen the axes leading to Fatahland and allow the transit of terrorists.

SABOTEURS SET FIRE TO CINEMA IN ABADAN

LD200912Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0700 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] As we reported earlier with great regret, last night 377 people lost their lives in Rex Cinema in Abadan following a fearsome fire started by saboteurs; many others were also hurt. The incident is under investigation. According to latest reports, Governor General of Khuzestan Namazi visited the scene and expressed the shah's sympathy to the relatives of the victims. More information will be made available in later bulletins.

Cabinet Meets

LD211112Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 21 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Our correspondent send the following report on the cabinet meeting:

The cabinet met this morning under Prime Minister Amuzegar. At the end of the meeting government spokesman Dariush Homayun said in response to a question about the tragic incident in an Abadan movie theater: The incident in Abadan is so tragic that I find it difficult to speak about it. I doubt whether a similar incident has happened anywhere in the world, with the exception of the period when the fascists were in power.

Terrorism is witnessed anywhere in the world. However, these terrorist groups would never hurt their own people. The tragic incident in Abadan has, unfortunately, left a black mark in the eyes of the world in our country. In its meeting today, the government condemned this diabolical act, believing it should be considered a national tragedy. The spokesman called on the people to take concerted action against such savage acts. He stressed that this does not mean that the government will not fulfill its duties against these acts. However, he added, the people must prove that they are not simply bystanders, for public reaction is the most effective means of ending these crimes.

The spokesman then called on various groups to clarify their positions against these savage acts, for the incident in Abadan must mean an end to demagogy. He added that the groups which try to enjoy the support of the people as well as that of the saboteurs and troublemakers must clarify their positions.

Commenting on the reaction of the people of Khuzestan, especially of Abadan people, the spokesman said: After the incident big assemblies were held in Abadan during which these diabolical acts were condemned. The people stressed that they are seeking revenge, swearing they will punish the instigators.

In conclusion the government spokesman added: During the cabinet meeting the interior minister's report on increasing the number of duties was read and approved. The report is to be submitted to the Majlis.

SHIRAZ CINEMA DESTROYED BY SABOTEURS

LD200924Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0800 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Following the death of 377 of our countrymen during a fire in Abadan, about an hour ago we were informed that early this morning a group of unidentified people carried out an act of sabotage, totally wrecking the Paramount Cinema in Shiraz, and then fleeing. Firemen put out the fire resulting from the sabotage at 0710. The damage is estimated at around 15 million rials.

EXPORT BANK BRANCH IN TEHRAN SET ON FIRE

LD210730Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 21 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Following the inferno in an Abadan cinema resulting in the deaths of 377 of our countrymen, an export bank branch in Tehran was also set on fire while one of the staff was still inside.

In recent weeks 29 cinemas have been set ablaze by saboteurs and arsonists and in a few cases these fires have resulted in the loss of lives.

BOMB EXPLODES IN SHIRAZ RESTAURANT

LD201042Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] At 1100 today a bomb exploded in Maxim Restaurant in Shiraz, causing some damage. A worker cleaning the restaurant is reported to have been injured. The explosion took place while the restaurant was closed. The bomb had been placed in a dustbin. The incident is being investigated.

MAJLIS PASSES PROPOSAL ON MARTIAL LAW IN ESFAHAN

LD201046Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The Majlis today passed the government proposal on declaration of the martial law in Esfahan. The open meeting of the Majlis, which was held at 1000 under Riazi, was attended by the ministers of war and interior, as well as a number of under secretaries. The meeting began by discussing the government proposal and following a point of order raised by Mr Akhlaqpur, one member of parliament spoke for, and another against, the proposal. Mr Pezeshkpur raised some points in opposing the proposal, and Mr Mansurian spoke in favor of it. Afterwards, on the proposal of six members, the proposals were voted upon and approved.

Senate Approves Declaration

LD211114Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 21 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] The Senate today held an extraordinary meeting during which it approved the government's proposal on declaring martial law in Esfahan.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL IN SHIRAZ CANCELED

LD190926Y Tehran PARS in English 0700 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, 18 August 1978, (PARS News Agency)--"The Shiraz festival of arts will not be held this year." This short piece of news is one of the most sad events in the history of our culture. Always, at times of war, bloodshed, terrorism and arson our world has condemned such activities and has searched for subsistence. It did not seem that a handful of rioters could cause a situation in which an international festival could be canceled with expressions of "deep regret."

The Shiraz festival of arts, which has been a gathering place for outstanding artists and reformers from East and West for 12 years, has served the worlds of art, thought, and feeling of art pioneers. At the beginning, small Asian countries or those Asian countries with less artistic capabilities, were not familiar with the festival. But gradually, Asian artists have welcomed the festival and old Asia has proved at the festival that despite its long cultural history, it is still young, full of feeling and talents and is still seeking peace, friendship and affection. The cancellation of the Shiraz arts festival has severely shaken Iranian intellectuals and the cultural world.

AFGHANISTAN

PARTY POLITBURO ISSUES DECLARATION ON COUP ATTEMPT

BK181510Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 18 Aug 78 BK

[Declaration of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan]

[Text] Dear countrymen, you know well that the liberation revolution of (?taal) was supported truly and profusely by the toilers and the people of the country and that (?this support, in step) with the activities of the revolutionary state, is being expanded (?gradually) and developed every day.

But it is a natural matter that the internal and foreign enemies of the revolution, too, are not giving up conspiracies and intrigue and are (?ceaselessly) trying to launch (?every) antipeople and antirevolutionary actions against the interests of the people and the revolution.

In this [word indistinct] antipeople, (?antilegal) and antirevolutionary elements [words indistinct] enemies of the people of Afghanistan have undertaken antirevolutionary activities and that the Democratic Republican State of Afghanistan has fortunately discovered these disruptive activities of the traitorous elements to the interests of the people and revolution in time and has brought these under serious control and supervision.

Recently the state discovered a network and put it under decisive supervision in which a number of traitors to the interests of the people and country participated. Included in this number are also Brigadier General Abdol Qader, the minister of defense; Major General Shamphur, chief of the general staff; and Dr Mir Ali Akbar, president of the Jamhuriyat Hospital who, based on the revolutionary principle, have been arrested.

Once again, it is being expressively announced that the great (?taal) revolution is irreversible. Our people's and revolutionary state enjoys vast support of the people of the country and is confronting with full irreconcilability and revolutionary principles, the enemies of the revolution.

TARAKI TO UNDERTAKE DEFENSE PORTFOLIO

BK181438Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 18 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has said:

The extraordinary session of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan met under the chairmanship of Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, the secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan at (Palace Khas) from 1100 to 1300 yesterday. It was decided in the session that Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, shall also undertake the affairs of the Ministry of Defense of Afghanistan. Comrade Hafizollah Amin, the deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, shall also help in the affairs of the Ministry of Defense.

TARAKI GIVES 59TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY SPEECH

LD200010Y Kabul in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 19 Aug 78

[Speech by Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, on 17 Aug, on the 59th anniversary of the regaining of Afghanistan's independence--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, honorable friends and compatriots: As secretary general of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party and on behalf of your people's state, I have the honor of congratulating you from the bottom of my heart on the occasion of the 59th anniversary of the regaining of Afghanistan's independence.

As a result of the patriotic struggle of the courageous Afghan people, the attainment of Afghanistan's independence has gained a prominent place in the world's history. This is because that independence was attained as a result of three wars between the Afghan people and the British. Afghanistan was the first country in the entire East to break the shackles of British imperialism, which opened the way for the success of the liberation movement.

The patriotic struggle of the heroic Afghan people had its impact on world history and attracted the attention of the rulers on the Indian Subcontinent where the British bourgeoisie, which was approaching neoimperialism, embarked on sucking the blood of the Indian people, saw in the creation of an independent state in Afghanistan a threat to its imperialist domination and exploitation of India. Thus, over 1 and 1/2 centuries ago, it extended its foot into Afghanistan and began to commit aggression against Afghanistan's natural borders.

But when the British met with fierce resistance from the Afghan people, they resorted to a mean intrigue: setting one Afghan against another in order to create internal weakness. At that time, when due to old-fashioned feudalist conditions, there were tribal wars in Afghanistan and the Afghan people were living in deprivation under the yoke of feudal princes, the British entered the country with the help of some traitorous princes and men of religion such as (Idi Watani). The carried out acts of aggression against the lives and sanctities of the people.

But the young patriots, in whose veins flowed the blood of manliness and nationalism, could not tolerate the British assault against the people's dignity and pride. They therefore dealt a severe blow to the British and destroyed the entire British Army. Out of 20,000 British soldiers, only one, a doctor, succeeded in dragging himself into British India.

In the 19th century when the sun never set on the British Empire, this defeat at the hands of the Afghan people aroused the concern of the princes and the British commanders. Thus, a second war began between the Afghan people and the British who sought to avenge the defeat of the British forces in the first war. The basic objective of this war was to strike at the Afghan people so that it would be possible to exploit the Indian people without any worry.

However, the British again met with defeat and disgrace. It was inevitable for the Afghan people to teach the British an unforgettable lesson, but the traitorous princes of the feudalist regime in Afghanistan once more proved themselves to be the ones who betrayed the homeland. They handed the country's independence to Britain with the help of the traitors and some sectarian leaders who sold out the homeland. They continued to rule the people of Afghanistan as British lackeys.

Following the second war between the Afghan people and the British, the British envoys in Afghanistan ruled the country insolently through the princes. Some of the men of religion who clung to the British gave these oppressive rulers, who sold their homeland, various religious ranks and titles and considered them to be the pillars of religion.

But the patriotic, valiant youth did not stop fighting for the freedom of the homeland. Many young men were martyred for the sake of the country's freedom while others opened the road to regaining independence through [word indistinct].

By the 2d decade of the 20th century when imperialism had begun to recede in the world and a strong workers' regime had emerged to help the popular liberation upsurges, the Afghan liberation upsurge had matured too.

The waves of liberation in the country rose daily until in 1919, in the days of His Majesty Amanollah Khan, the war of independence between the Afghan people and the British began.

On 19 August 1919, Britain recognized Afghanistan's independence. Afghanistan wrested its independence from the claws of imperialist colonialism, thus becoming the first in the entire East to do so and joined the ranks of the world's free countries. For this reason, 19 August of every year was celebrated as the day of independence in the reign of Amanollah Khan.

Since Amanollah Khan, as the leader of free Afghanistan, pursued a free policy and ruled accordingly and befriended the countries which supported the Afghan people's struggle, the USSR, as a workers' state, recognized Afghanistan's independence for the first time and declared its readiness to offer full assistance.

Amanollah Khan pursued an independent policy which served the interests of his country. He was making fast progress with the help of friendly countries. However, British imperialism could not tolerate this. Furthermore, Afghanistan's position in India continued to grow as a result of this policy.

British imperialism returned to the good Afghan people under the guise of Islam and began to plot against Amanollah Khan. It sought to replace Amanollah Khan with one of its agents. Thus, to attain their objectives, the British appointed the treacherous Nader who instigated the people against Amanollah Khan and levelled all sorts of accusations against him including heresy.

Then, with the help of their lackeys, the British succeeded in forcing Amanollah Khan to flee the country, undoing the good he had done and throwing dear Afghanistan into the dark labyrinth of oppression and misery. [Word indistinct] using Islam as a guise played a major role in this regard and branded the government of Amanollah Khan as heretic with the aid of the sheikhs and men of religion, who made false sermons in the mosques.

Thus, the toiling people of Afghanistan were deceived. Aided by the tricks and help of the British, Nader sat on the throne of Afghanistan and immediately destroyed the enemies of the British and shrouded the country in darkness. To dampen the people's zeal against British imperialism, Nader established a new date, instead of 19 August, to be celebrated as the anniversary.

The actual anniversary of Afghanistan's independence was [word indistinct] until the reign of Daud, the last ruler of the Nader dynasty. Instead, another day was fixed for the anniversary to divert the people's attention from Nader as the one who sold the homeland and [word indistinct] the people's feelings against the British.

Those such as Hashim and Daud, who executed the policies of the Nader dynasty, had a complete capacity to commit all sorts of injustices and oppression against the people in order to destroy the liberation movements and upsurges in the country. The prisons abounded with struggling youth, and young men were hanged. Finally, and as a result of a long struggle and the sacrifices of the heroic Afghan people, the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party was formed. This workers' party worked hard to spread the ideology of the working class throughout the country, particularly among the officers of Afghanistan's armed forces, turning them into a major force.

The great Sowr revolution succeeded under the leadership of this heroic party, and political power was transferred to the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party which is now implementing a program which [word indistinct] all the possibilities which [word indistinct] the people. The people's blood was [word indistinct].

It is your people's government which establishes the rights of the Afghan masses in the best possible manner, which brings glory and dignity to the people of Afghanistan and which lights all the torches of struggle of the Afghan masses which imperialism and its agents used to put out.

Within the 3 short months of its work, your people's government has decided to insure that the history of Afghanistan remains clear and to immortalize the sources of pride in the country's history. Thus, the day of the great Sowr revolution, 19 August, shall be observed as the anniversary of Afghanistan's independence.

On this great historic day, your people's state reaffirms its pledge to the dear compatriots that it will proceed forward to destroy all exploitation of man by man and to bring about a better life for the people of Afghanistan. It assures all the people of Afghanistan that it is taking decisive measures against the violators of the Sowr revolution. There is no room now for black reaction to deceive the people by all sorts of lies and intrigues.

Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki continued:

Today, there is no room in our society for any of the elements which seek to accomplish their deviationist objectives under the guise of Islam. These elements do not hesitate to exploit the religion of Islam to harm the people's interests.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan acts with full confidence against its enemies, [words indistinct]. As to those who plot against us in the dark, we will throw them into darkness too. Those who move and instigate the others against us will be destroyed immediately without any hesitation.

Our revolution is marching forward and the people's happiness is being established day after day. The Afghan people are living in complete security and individual and social reassurance. They are looking forward to a bright future.

Our armed forces see their bright future in their glistening mirror. They are happy and dance in the rising waves of the great Sowr revolution. This happiness and joy is reflected in their lives.

Today, the world looks to Afghanistan with respect and pride. Today, Afghanistan occupies its place among the world's revolutionary peace-and-freedom-loving states. It struggles with these other states against dictatorship and exploitation.

Looking at the achievements of our great revolution during the past 3 months proves that the defunct regime of Daud has collapsed. By this, I mean that all state officials from heads of districts to the head of the Revolutionary Council belong to the People's Democratic Party. They are the serious protectors of the people's gains. All members of the Afghan Armed Forces belong to the People's Democratic Party. We can say that all state officials both civilian and military belong to the People's Democratic Party, the party of the working class. Those who do not belong to the people cannot carry on any mass struggle and are no doubt enemies of the interests of the Afghan masses.

The people's state of Afghanistan and all the toilers in our country are capable of eliminating all elements which try to rise against the revolution or which try to hatch plots. Our state is alert and its eyes are open to see its enemies wherever they may be.

We can say that order now prevails throughout Afghanistan. In the field of foreign policy, matters are proceeding normally. Afghanistan's participation in international conferences, particularly the conference of foreign ministers in Belgrade, the celebration of a national holiday in Cuba and the participation of our party's youth in the international students' conference in Havana have had a great influence on our foreign policy. Afghanistan has played an important, positive and independent role in foreign politics.

Internally, political power rests in the hands of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The hopes of the Afghan people are high. There is no oppression or dictatorship in Afghanistan. There is no disregard for the people's interests nor usurpation of their rights. There is no room for insulting the people. Bribery and embezzlement are declining daily in Afghanistan.

The state is in the hands of the workers' party. It tries to exert efforts to improve the living conditions of the workers and issues ration cards to the workers who share in social security and benefit from their official holidays. In this regard, they are joined by the government employees.

Decree No 6 constitutes a new step for saving the peasants from the grip of mortgages, high interest and [word indistinct]. This decree has saved millions of peasants and landless toilers from exploitation by the landowners. They now enjoy a new life full of hope.

We have exerted our efforts to find work for all people who are without work. We have begun projects in various fields. We have started implementing the 5-year plan in Afghanistan. Work in this regard is continuing with full zeal.

We have benefited from the visits our officials have made to friendly countries and have obtained useful results from them.

Free medical care for our people is expanding with the utmost speed. We have made great progress in the field of education. So far, we have opened over 400 schools throughout Afghanistan. We have exerted our efforts to expand the university of (?Ningrahar). We have freed thousands of prisoners and burned their files.

Trade is proceeding in a better manner. We have opened markets for our produce, particularly for our fruits.

The aid which our revolutionary state has given to the victims of the recent floods in some parts of the country is unprecedented.

Huge efforts are being exerted to revive the Afghan people's national heritage and to revive the various languages in Afghanistan. We have begun publishing and broadcasting material in various Afghan languages. We want to revive and expand the various cultures of the various nationalities of our great people.

There has been an unparalleled increase in our country's financial situation. Useful and organized efforts are being exerted in this field.

Communications are operating in a better way and contracts have been concluded with friendly countries.

On this great historic occasion, the anniversary of the independence of Afghanistan, and as we celebrate and rejoice at the success of our revolution, the great Sowr revolution, and congratulate each other, I can tell you with full pride that we support the peaceful policy of the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. In full frankness we say that we are marching forward toward peace and democracy. We also are marching with side strides toward advancement and social progress and betterment. We respect the freedom of other countries and do not interfere in the internal affairs of the other countries. We also do not let others interfere in our internal affairs.

We have such strong relations with our neighboring state, the USSR, that this friendship has blinded the eyes of the enemies and strengthened close and cordial relations with this neighboring country.

We march forward toward progress and full support. Our cordial relations with India are getting stronger day after day. We hope to strengthen our cordial relations with our neighbors Pakistan and China. We safeguard our cordial relations with Pakistan.

We have solved the problem of the Pushtun and Baluchi brothers through cordial talks. We hope to solve such a problem with Pakistan also.

We hope that peace will reign throughout the entire world in fulfillment of the peoples' hopes. We want all peoples and nationalities in the world to enjoy the right of self-determination. We wish them complete freedom.

In conclusion, I say long live the masses of Afghanistan! Victory and success to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan!

INDIA

SRV FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MEETS WITH COMMERCE MINISTER

BK191457Y Delhi ISI in English 1436 GMT 19 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Dang Viet Chau, foreign trade minister of Vietnam, who is presently in the capital to attend the ESCAP trade ministers conference, called on Mohan Dharia, union minister for commerce, civil supplies and cooperation, in New Delhi on August 19. The commerce minister welcomed the Vietnamese delegation to India. The Vietnamese minister said that though it was their first experience they hoped to contribute their mite towards achieving the goals set for the conference.

During the 45-minute discussion between the two leaders the Vietnamese minister explained in detail the economic situation in his country and the difficulties faced by them towards reconstructing their war-torn economy. He appreciated the assistance rendered by India towards same.

The two leaders also reviewed development of trade between their respective countries following the signing of a new trade and economic cooperation agreement in New Delhi in February 1978. Under the agreement, the two countries had agreed to accord each other the most favoured nation treatment in all matters relating to trade. The agreement had also incorporated two indicative lists of commodities available for export from the two countries. Some of the items of export from India indicated were locomotives, coaches and bogies, agricultural machinery, pharmaceutical products, electrical appliances and electrical wires and cables, pig iron, steel and products thereof and those from Vietnam were rice, vegetable oils, apatite and oil seeds. The agreement had provided for the promotion of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries and envisaged encouragement of mutually agreed schemes and exchange of technical knowhow, skilled personnel and technical trainees.

After the reunification of Vietnam, the question of placing trade and economic relationship between India and Vietnam on a more sound footing had been under consideration of the two governments. This was discussed in detail during the visits of a Vietnamese economic delegation to India in August and September 1977 and an Indian economic delegation to Vietnam subsequently which culminated in the signing of the new trade and economic cooperation agreement in 1978 which incidentally was signed in presence of the prime ministers of India and Vietnam.

NEPAL

FORMER PREMIER KOIRALA RETURNS TO KATMANDU

BK201542Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1527 GMT 20 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Katmandu, Aug 20 (AFP)--Deposed Premier Biseswor Prashad Koirala, 64, returned here this afternoon via Patna, capital of Bihar, two hours behind schedule, after a second operation on his carotid artery in New York. He was accompanied by his younger sister, Mrs Vijaya Laxmi, who is married to a Pakistani.

The Royal Nepalese Airlines Avro bringing Mr Koirala landed at Katmandu Airport amidst the chanting of anti-Koirala slogans by over 15,000 cadres of the partyless Panchayat policy.

Soon after his arrival, he was driven to his home two kilometres west of Katmandu Airport in a government wagon which apparently averted a bloody clash with anti-Koirala demonstrators who were assembled outside the airport launge.

The anti-Koirala demonstrators were carrying black placards inscribed with slogans like "Down with Foreign Agent Dogs," "Down With Anti-Panchayat Elements," and "Long Live Panchayat Policy."

At one stage the anti-Koirala demonstrators pelted with stones a group of pro-Koirala followers who were present at the airport to receive the desposed premier with bouquets and wreaths. The pro-Panchayat demonstrators snatched the bouquets and wreaths.

Due to timely intervention by the police and airport security guards the situation was brought under control and the demonstrators were calmed down.

Before dispersing, the pro-Panchayat demonstrators held a meeting outside the airport. One of the speakers said, "We will smash the American stooges and foreignagent dogs if they stand in the way of the partyless Panchayat policy."

Mr Koirala's senior colleagues of the banned Nepali Congress including K.P. Bhattarai, R.K. Shah, S.P. Upadhyay, close relatives and several other followers did not react against the attack from the anti-Koirala demonstrators. They remained calm and quiet outside the arrival lounge.

Later on, several of Mr Koirala's followers were seen assembled in front of his residence without any ugly incident.

Mr Koirala, who was on parole for the medical treatment since last March, has to face two of seven state offence charges before a one man special tribunal. He was acquitted in February last of five serious charges of treason. If he had lost one of the five charges he would have been given the death penalty.

According to the law, Mr Koirala has to present himself before the tribunal within a week after his return to Katmandu and face the remaining two charges of treason including the "split fire" case in which he had allegedly made an anti-crown political statement during his self-imposed exile in India.

SRI LANKA

TULF TO BOYCOTT PARLIAMENT CONSTITUTION CEREMONY

BK201605Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1546 GMT 20 Aug 78 BK

[Excerpts] Colombo, Aug 20 (AFP)--The major opposition party in Parliament, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), today decided to boycott the ceremonial sitting of Parliament on September 7 when the country's new constitution will come into operation.

The new constitution, passed last Wednesday in Parliament, was opposed by the TULF as well as by the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) of former Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike. Both parties also boycotted the debate.

The TULF opposed the new constitution saying that it does not meet their demand for a separate state for the 2.5 million minority Tamils.

Mrs Bandaranaike, in a strongly worded statement, charged that the new constitution would lead to the setting up of a dictatorship by President Jayewardene. Her party has not decided yet on its attitude to the ceremonial sitting but observers expected that it would also stage a boycott.

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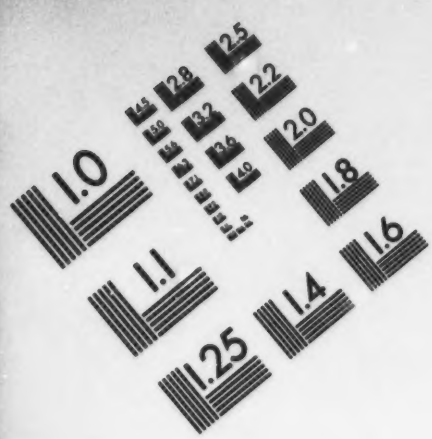

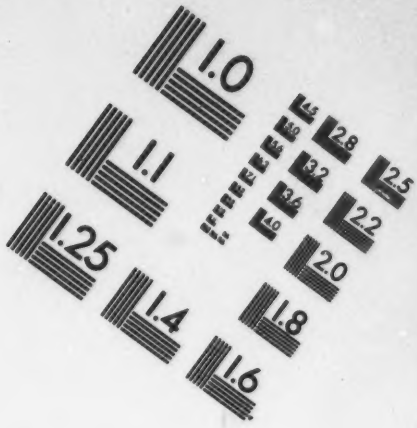

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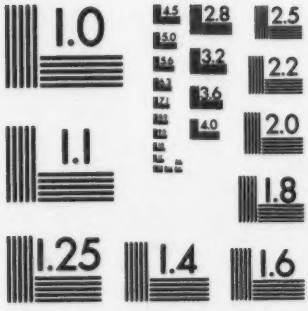

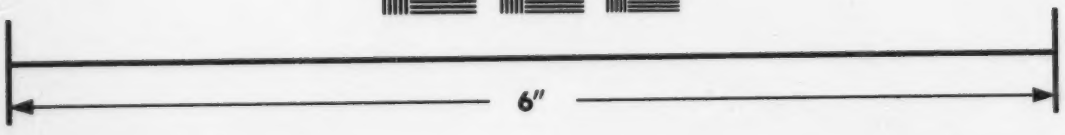

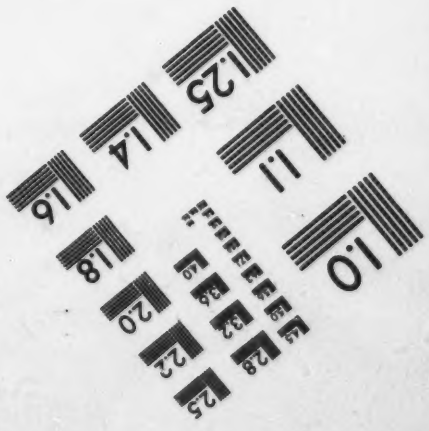

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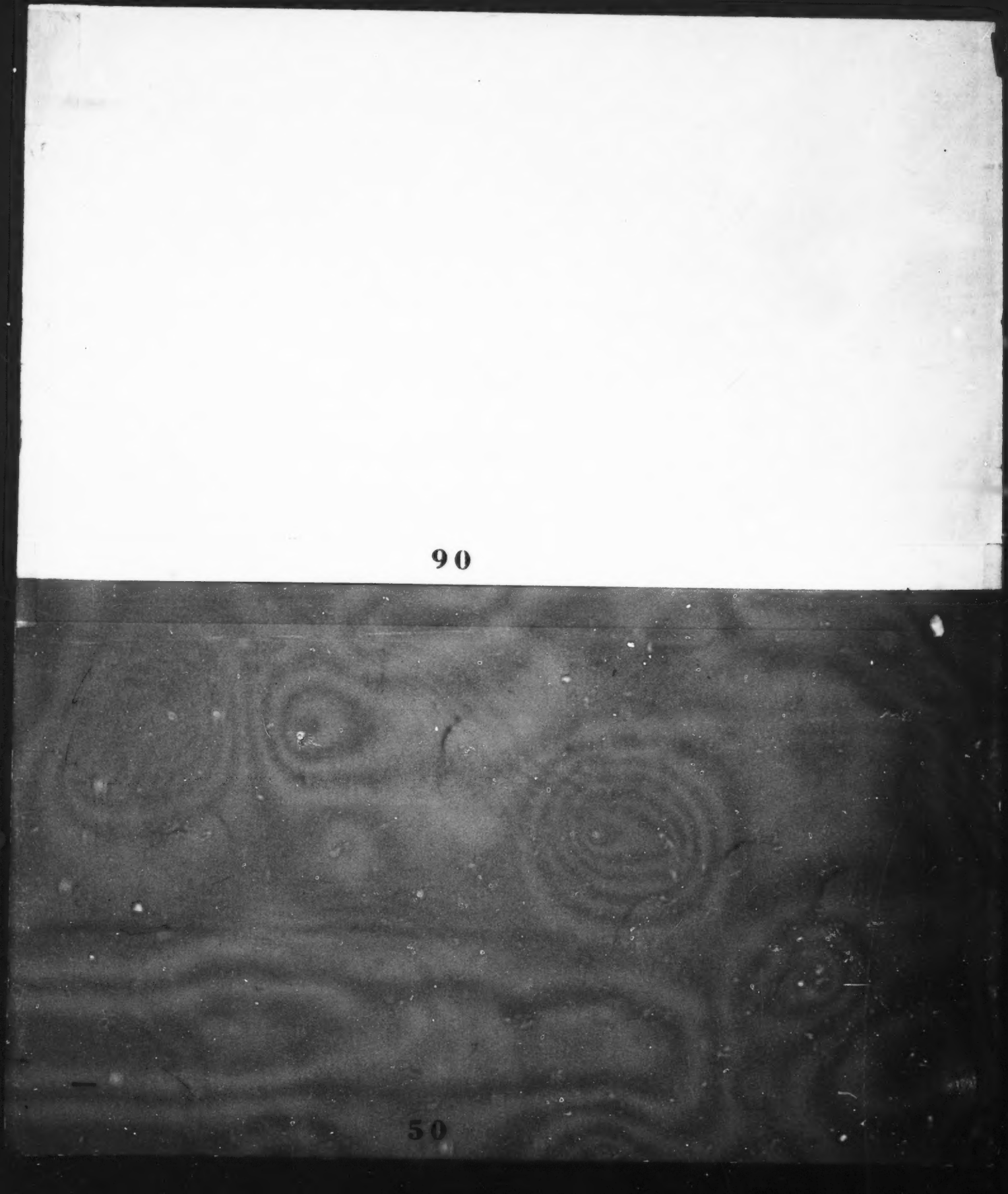
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